

The Swaminarayan

Education is that which liberates

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Theme for the week

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

Shyam Ramsaroop wins \$13,000 Scholarship from Tampa University, Florida, USA



In their offer letter to Shyam, Director of International Admissions, George DePonte wrote: “The Admissions Committee has chosen to admit you to The University of Tampa for the Fall Term 2017 with an intended area of study in Pre-Medicine Chemistry-Undeclared. In recognition of your academic achievements, The University of Tampa is pleased to award you a Presidential Scholarship of \$13,000. I am happy to invite you to become a member of the UT community. As a UT Spartan, you will experience academic challenges and opportunities leading toward both personal and professional growth. Your achievements place you among a select group of students who we believe will excel in an academic environment that develops productive and responsible citizens. Your outstanding academic

performance has placed you among a select group of students admitted into our prestigious Honours Program. In the Honours Program, you will enjoy specially designed Honours classes that go beyond the regular curriculum to explore ideas and special topics with our academically gifted students and Honours faculty. Among the benefits include study abroad, internships, a chance for publication in the Honours Journal, *Respondez*, and an invitation to live on an Honours floor in a residence hall. These and other benefits are more fully explained in the enclosed Honours brochure. As a Honours student, you can participate in all that the Honours Program offers without detracting in any way from your set course of study.” Incidentally, today is Shyam’s birthday, so Happy Birthday, Shyam!

External Music Examination November 2016

It is my pleasure to announce that following students had appeared for the Tabla external music examinations in Dec. 2016 through Akhil Bhartiya Gandharva Mahavidyalaya Mandal, Mumbai-India. ABGMVM is an oldest and very well renowned Indian International Examination Board which was established by Pt. VD Palukar in 1901 in Lahore and at present has centres all over India, Middles East, UK, USA, etc. My heartfelt congratulation to these boys and special thanks to Mr Manani and their class teachers for their continuous motivation and support.

Hemal Gor (S5)

Yash Patel (S3)

Vivek Lad

Rahul Kumar

Grade 4 - Distinction

Grade 1 - Distinction

Grade 1 - 1st Class

Grade 2 - 1st Class



Studying at Universities in USA

This Monday, the school hosted a lecture for Seniors 4, 5 & 6 by the visiting Associate Dean Angelika Volkman, from University of California, Irvine, on studying in USA. Dean Volkman highlighted the benefits of American University Education, the hurdles, rewards and costs.



It is a very competitive system, based on merit, like all admissions to universities the world over. Yet USA boasts 80% of the world's top universities, the reason for which was quite apparent because, while it does not diminish the value of knowledge and learning, it sets out to encourage research, innovation and creative thinking, the often highly-priced qualities of all outstanding students.

Six Ways to Success

Subject: Gujarati

Below are six ways through which students could achieve success in Gujarati.

1. Prepare orals and practise every day.
2. Speak Gujarati at home.
3. Read the question first and then scan for keywords.
4. Be able to write in all 3 tenses properly.
5. Listen for the key elements.
6. Work on dictionary skills.

SUNDAY DRAMA! – Mr Benny writes:

A re-remind that S3 actors will be rehearsing this Sunday, 19 March, reporting in at 9.30 a.m. and finishing at 3 or 4pm (subject to progress). Nerissa Patel and Mya Patel will be needed as tech crew from 11am on. PLEASE WOULD STUDENTS BE ON TIME!

Art Study Days – Easter Holidays - Nicola Morrison writes:

For Year 11 & Sixth Form

Students have been asked to attend school on the first Monday and Tuesday of the Easter holiday in order to make final preparations for their art exams. We will be working from 9am to 4pm each day (**Monday 3 & Tuesday 4 April**).

Preparing for examinations

Think

Examinations are here to stay unless we can find a better way of testing students, and you will therefore have to get used to them.

Feel

The reason some students succeed in examinations and others fail is largely, but not entirely, due to their preparation. In much the same way that preparation for various things in life delivers success, well-planned revision is essential to success in examinations.

Do

1. Create a revision timetable long before your examinations and make sure you stick to it. Read your notes and make summaries of your work. Use a variety of methods such as reading revision websites, working with friends, testing yourself, and most importantly of all, get used to the style of the questions by doing past examinations papers.
2. Your habit of waking up early will be very important on the day of the examination. Make sure you have a good breakfast (for the afternoon examination, have a light lunch). Use the summary you made when revising to review the key points and make sure you have all the essential writing tools as well as calculator and protractor. Arrive in good time for the examination and find time to relax with your friends.
3. Quickly read through the entire paper at the beginning of the examination. Start with questions you feel most confident with and finish them in good time to allow yourself enough time for the rest. If you have to write an essay, prepare a brief plan with the key points you want to mention. Drink water if you are allowed to take a bottle into the examination hall and make sure you finish the paper in good time so you can read through your answers at the end.
4. It is important to pause between questions, take deep breaths, remain calm, and keep your mind alert and focused.
5. If you have started your revision months before the examinations and have been working steadily throughout the year, you will find that preparation for examinations is not that hard after all.

Planning for External Examinations

Students and parents should know that the external examination timetable has been published for all summer examinations. You should all have had a statement from Mr Cotton. I will write to you detailing the final arrangements, the schedule for remarks and appeals.

Yours sincerely,

Nilesh Manani