

# The Swaminarayan

Education is that which liberates

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

## Theme for the week

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

## Open Evening Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017 between 6-8 pm

All parents, friends and guardians are welcome to join us and see the school with the pupils in the class, doing things, helping, learning, acting, speaking, listening...  
LAMDA, Public Speaking, Art, Duke of Edinburgh, Sports, Dancing, Tabla, Singing... Speak to the teachers, tutors and the very knowledgeable guides.

## Royal Institution Masterclasses in Mathematics

For six weeks, Shyam Vyas, Madhushree Manjunatha and I (Vishal Rao) have headed towards the Royal Institution (RI) in Mayfair on Saturdays. There we attended six different lectures by six different speakers, some of whom are university professors.



Vishal Rao(S3)

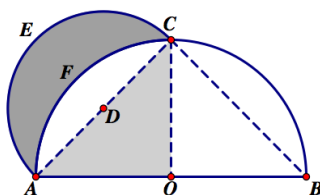


Madhushree Manjunatha(S3)



Shyam Vyas(S3)

On the first week, we had a professor from Imperial College lecturing us about Infinity. We had a very useful analogy to understand the concept of infinity... named “Hilbert’s Hotel.” This consists of thinking that the hotel consists of an infinite number of rooms, such that even if all the rooms were filled, there would be enough space for another infinity of people. How does that work? (It’s to do with prime numbers) On the second week, we had a Crystallography lecture on the mathematics of crystals using virtual reality. The modern technique of teaching was fascinating and so was the mathematics. However, no questions were directed towards us. On the third week, a mathematician lectured us on the mathematics of navigation. It turns out that sailors can’t navigate the seas without the use of mathematics!



On the fourth week, we had a lecturer from Gresham College talking to us about Spirals. Here we came across a very interesting proof about the lune of Hippocrates, I’ll leave the proof to you as a challenge. The task is to prove the two shaded regions to be equal in area.

On the fifth week, we had another professor lecture us on the proofs of formulas for volumes. This was mainly visual and thus no questions were asked of us. On the sixth and final week, we had a cipher challenge. Let me give you a cipher as a challenge... xzmbfxizxpgrhxrksvi? Perhaps the most noteworthy thing in the entire series of lectures was the sense of awe it inspired in us. There is so much out there, all we have to do is access it. Thank you to the Mathematics Department for the opportunity.

### **Preparation for the Candidates for the new Mathematics GCSE**

Ishan Dwivedi, Aditi Hanumantha, Kajol Jain, Sunaabh Trivedi and Henil Premgi will be attending a Revision session on Monday 3rd April from 9 - 12 in preparation for their GCSE this summer.

### **Gujarati Listening Practice – Mr Ladwa writes:**

Selected students from Senior 3 & 4 will be attending Gujarati Listening Practice on 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April from 10.00am to 12noon.

### **DRAMA AND LAMDA UPDATES: Years 7-12 incl. - Mr Benny writes:**

#### **YEAR 11: GCSE DRAMA UNIT 2 EXAM: REHEARSALS SCHEDULE**

Would parents please support our rehearsals schedule below for the exam candidates.

Attendance is compulsory.

After school rehearsals: 4-5.15/5.30pm (unless otherwise stated)

*Group A: Ananya + Payal. Group B: Raz + Adithya. Group C: Alisha + Rhea*

Mon 27 March: *Group A* Tues 28 March *ALL* Wed

Thur 30 March (Open Evening): *ALL until 6.30pm*

Mon 3 April (Hol) 10am-2/2.30pm: *ALL* Tues 4 April (Hol) 10am-2pm: *A + C*

Wed 12 April: *Group C at home* Tues 18 April 10am-2/2.30pm: *ALL*

Thur 20 April : *Group B* Tues 25 April : *ALL* Friday 28 April: *ALL DAY P1-P6 : ALL*

SUNDAY 30 APRIL: 10am – 3.30pm: ALL

Tues and Wed 2 & 3 May: *ALL*

Thur 4 May: *ALL DAY DR/Tech (and pm subject to progress): ALL*

FRIDAY 5 May: ACTORS REPORT IN AT 8 a.m. for 9 a.m. PERFORMANCE EXAM

**YEAR 9: ISA DRAMA COMPETITION:** Just to remind parents to please take into account the following rehearsals schedule for the ISA Drama Competition on Saturday:

23 March Thurs: Period 4 and after school, 4.20-5.30pm

24 March Friday: Periods 4 + 6 and DRESS REH after school, 4.20-5.30/6pm (subject to progress)

25 MARCH SATURDAY: 7 a.m. cast + crew report to TSS for coach to Ascot. Parents may follow in their own cars. Maps provided. Performance: 9.30 a.m. Adjudication by 11 a.m. then students free to return home with parents or with the coach, returning to TSS by 1 or 2pm.

**LAMDA** – Exams are now time-tabled, taking place at TSS throughout 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March, involving students from all years entering at their chosen level. Please would parents help test their son/daughter on both the ‘knowledge’ aspects (theory) as well as their lines which must be word-perfect and expressive in terms of character and meaning. Many thanks.

### **Parents visiting school**

In recent years, the safeguarding of everyone in the school has become increasingly more heightened. The health and Safety of all pupils, and staff in the school is our most significant duty while they are on the school premises. The best way parents can help us to keep the children safe is to follow the protocol by announcing yourself at the office. After signing in, you will be asked to wait until the member of staff with whom you have an appointment comes to collect you.



### WRITER'S CORNER

Where poems especially flourish is where they entertain the *coincidence of opposites!* Ankitha's done just that, and so sensitively too. Her 'Choices' speaks for itself....

#### CHOICES.....

*The sun rises in the east,  
And sets in the west;  
It brings the coming of a new life.  
The flower that opens in the darkest of days  
May be the one that blossoms?*

*There are countless wrong-doings,  
But there are few right things.  
The flower that blooms in the moonlight  
Has the darkest power to shine.*

*The flower that grows in the light,  
Has the brightest power to dim.*

*There is always light at the end of darkness,  
But the choice has always been yours,  
To choose what to do.  
Death has always been darkness.  
What happens when for thee it is light?*

*There are many reasons for change  
Like there are many Reasons for death.  
We have the power to choose light or darkness,  
No matter the consequences. We must always choose.....*

**Ankitha Muthukumar (Yr 9)**

### Concentration and Education

#### Think

A wise man once said, "If I had my time all over again, I would not 'educate' myself but learn to concentrate, then all the knowledge of the world would be mine to use as I wish." This is an incredibly powerful statement. Ask any teacher and they will tell you that the most important quality a student needs is the ability to concentrate, and the best students have an uncanny talent for it. Some students can study with music playing in their ears, others can study in a rowdy class, yet others need silence to study.

#### Feel

While you are young you have no choice but to go to school to learn the basic things like reading, writing and arithmetic. They are important to living a good and productive life because without these basic skills you will not be able to learn anything. It is good that going to school is compulsory and that in many countries going to secondary school is also compulsory. Apart from learning many subjects and skills, you also learn to socialise with people. You will be required to work with people your whole life. After you successfully complete your schooling, some of you may decide to go to university and study a subject upon which you will build your career. Others may be eager to begin working and start earning money, and it may be the way to achieve what you want to gain in your working life. There is no one way of building a career, but what is important is for you to understand that learning anything in life is never wasted. Sometimes you

will find that something you learnt years ago is suddenly very useful to you. A successful career has many routes, though it is a well-known fact that those students who go to university will generally earn a much higher salary. In some countries it is seen as the only way to escape poverty.

**Do**

What you must decide is whether you are a person who can tolerate years of studying, and if you can then it is a really wonderful way of building a good future.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Nilesh Manani**