

# The Swaminarayan

Education is that which liberates

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

## Theme for the week

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

## We Stand Together



We stand together with the entire country in condemning the bombing in the Manchester Arena. Senior pupils saluted all the lives lost in the bombing, many of them children, whose parents will never forget the memories they leave behind nor know how their lives would have turned out. Our prayers are with them as they are with all those who got injured during the explosion; we pray for the swift recovery of all of them.

## End of Year Planning

The Year plan for the academic year 2017/18 is almost complete with all the important dates in place. I will post it to all the parents during the final weeks of this academic year so that you can plan in advance. I will also place the dates on the Parents Portal, should you misplace the hard copy!

## Surveying Stakeholders

We annually do a survey with the pupils in the Mentor Group meetings which feeds into our improvement plans. A parents' survey is an essential part of this process. Parents should note that I shall produce a clear plan to enable you to be involved in the self-evaluation process which I will post to all the parents after the half term. As stakeholders in the future path of the school, I hope you will complete the survey. To start you off, I want you to think about the following key areas with a view to make this school into one of the best schools in the country.

- **Qualities and knowledge.** There is the expectation that Head teachers should lead by example “with integrity, creativity, resilience and clarity”. In the modern era where change is a constant, raising aspirations in what young people can achieve and demanded by our parents, we must remain ever vigilant to changes that are affecting us now, and will affect us in the future and implement a clear plan to address these issues. This will be completed in the plans that are currently being written for the next three years and it maybe that we need to seriously think about where we want the school to be in the next decade. We are under the microscope of published examination results to produce year-on-year improvements and provide the many extras that makes a child’s education.

- **Pupils and staff.** It remains our prime objective to get the best out of students and staff, with a key ambition to secure educational excellence in our school. We wish to make a tangible difference in ensuring our pupils succeed with inspirational leadership, teaching and curriculum that sets the pace for others to follow.

- **Systems and process.** Components of organisational wellbeing are vital to the school. Our systems and process must be underpinned by “rigorous, fair and transparent” systems, effective financial planning and governance.

- **The self-improving school system.** While the three years’ cycle of planning has allowed us to set the pace over more than a decade, it is important that we create a school that looks towards colleagues and other organisations to support, challenge and improve the education system as a whole. Last year this was done when the Senior School identified a day when all teachers visited another school. The lessons learnt have been invaluable in implementing change. We have also engaged with external supporters, INSET providers, speakers, parents, universities, conferences and Alumni to help us to focus on improving the school.

**Half Term Break**

The last half term break of the academic year is always very welcome because it falls in the middle of the external examinations and gives a period of nine days without examinations to students to prepare for the remaining examinations. While Seniors 1, 2 and 3 can take a well-deserved break, Seniors 4, 5 and 6 will have a busy half term of revision. **The school will be open to pupils normally after the half term break on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017.**

**S3 Internal Exams**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>
<b>1-2</b>	Physics	Chemistry	French
<b>3-4</b>	Maths 1	Geog/History	Maths 2
<b>5-6</b>	RS	Biology	

**TSS Summer Fair**  
**Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> & Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017**  
**Parents & Friends wishing to book a stall and banners should contact the school office.**

### **Performing Arts Department – Mr Oza writes...**

We are proud to announce that the music assembly is organized by the *Peripatetic music teachers* of the school. Children who learn piano, drums, flute, Western flute, guitar etc. in the school will perform to the delight of family, friends and the school children. Children are already being prepared by their music teachers in performing their music piece. Parents who wish to speak to a music teacher about the performance should contact the relevant teacher for more help and guidance. Light refreshments will be served from 8 am – 8.30am in the dining hall.

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2017** for (Y1, Y2 & Y3 only) - 8.45am – 10.00am

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017** for (Y4, Y5, Y6, S1, S2) - 8.45am – 10.00am

I would like to announce that a special music assembly is going to be held in September 2017 in the presence of Param Pujya HDH Shri Mahant Swami Maharaj in the mandir. Boys from any classes from S1 - L6 who wish to take part in Tabla, singing, instrumental fusion or dance item should come and see following teachers between 25th May and Fri 9th June latest. Any entries after 9th June will be not accepted.

Mr Oza : Tabla and instrumental fusion

Mrs Kakkad: Dance

Mrs Nafade : Mr Oza : Singing

### **Be ready for opportunities**

#### **Think**

Thomas Edison wrote that he failed a thousand times before he was able to perfect the simple light bulb, yet he learnt from each mistake and improved each time. The knowledge he gained along the way was important to reach his final goal. Thomas Edison was ready for his opportunity because he made careful notes about each test he conducted, clearly identifying what worked and what didn't work, so that when his eureka moment came, he was ready to understand its significance and ready to grasp it.

#### **Feel**

Opportunities come every day for people, yet most of us pass them by because we are not ready, or not well prepared to grasp them. Do not think that going to school and sitting in classrooms for endless hours is a waste of time; it is your chance to prepare for opportunities that will certainly come your way if you concentrate, work hard and study.

#### **Do**

Whether you want to be a great sportsperson, singer, scientist, actor, writer or the best in any other profession you will have to train for it, learn, improve and hone your skills to be ready for your opportunities when they come. There are no easy roads to success.

Yours sincerely,

**Nilesh Manani**