



Dear Parents,

## GREETINGS

A warm welcome to both new and returning pupils and families. We also wish you a happy new year. We have had a slow but good week back at school trying to get the pupils back into the school routine. Work started in earnest on day one and teachers sent homework so as to freshen the pupils learning and to prepare them for new learning that has been well planned for. As is our custom, there is differentiation going on all the time to ensure all pupils are learning the same topics but with variations to methodology, tasks, assessment etcetera.

## NEW STAFF

We are pleased to introduce to you the following members of staff who joined the school this term. We are pleased to have them join the team and we believe their passion and experience will help improve the quality of teaching and learning further.

### **Mrs Mariam Tanko**

I have a wide range of experiences in a number of schools in Edinburgh and Midlothian Schools (Scotland).

My teaching areas include literacy, numeracy, expressive arts, health and wellbeing, science and technology from the Curriculum of Excellency (CfE) as part of my experience among others. I have developed my practice (reflective and

creative pedagogy) in lower primary education to upper primary education under the mentorship of prestigious staff at the University of Strathclyde, in Glasgow, Scotland.

As a dedicated teacher who is committed to the welfare of the children and passionate about their education, my aim is to ensure that the children have all the support they need in their learning environment to progress and be confident individuals in all aspects of their daily life. My objectives are to ensure that there is balance of collaborative, creative and cooperative learning in the classroom, and to develop overall literacy across curriculum areas.

### **Mr Gift Isodje**

Mr Gift obtained a National Diploma in Computer Science in 2008 and proceeded to Delta State Polytechnic Otefe-Oghara for his Higher National Diploma (HND) in Computer science in 2009. He made some laudable achievements in leadership and academics while Studying for his HND and ultimately graduated as the best student in the Department of Computer Science.

In 2015, he got admission into the University of Ilorin to study for a Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) in Computer Science and finished the programme with distinction. He was employed by Grace Garden International School Maitama, Abuja as an ICT teacher and ICT Administrator.

In pursuit of his undying quest for excellence at what he does, he is currently studying for his MSc. in Computer Science at the University of Ilorin.

Mr. Gift loves playing chess and reading in his leisure time.

### **Mr Jeremy Tom Aba**

Mr Jeremy is a multi-talented teacher. He can teach Art, Music and P.E. He speaks some French, is a sound engineer and will run Music club at our school and eventually the cookery club as he is also a chef. His primary subjects at Oakland are Art and Music and he is already preparing the pupils for an awesome showcase. Watch this space.

Mr Jeremy has worked at top international schools in Abuja and we are happy to have him.

### **Mr Oke Rowland Ekeogak**

Mr Rowland studied Art and he is a Youth Corper posted to Oakland International School for one year.

## **CLUBS**

All pupils were given a club schedule on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January. Parents should kindly indicate which club/s pupils are registered into for the term. Please note, Thursday clubs are free and compulsory for pupils in Key stages 1 and 2 as the activities are value-added to the curriculum. Next week (week 2), we will run free club sessions. This gives pupils an opportunity to try out a club before deciding whether or not they would like to sign up for the term. This excludes swimming club; only

registered pupils will be taken swimming as this is an off-campus activity.

## **HEAD TEACHER**

The Head Teacher; Mr Franklin Adjetey is unavoidably absent for a few weeks as he has some urgent family matters to attend to. We are in constant communication with him and we expect him back as soon as he is able to conclude his affairs.

## **TERM 2 CALENDAR**

Please find attached to this newsletter the calendar for the term. Coming up this first half term is a parent workshop/seminar and the annual inter-house sports day. It will be a busy but exciting term, please keep these dates free in your diary to join us at school.

## **PUPIL UPDATE FORM**

Last term, every pupil was given an update form to take home for parents to furnish the school with updated information as regards phone numbers, email addresses, food allergies, photo release and other important information. We ask that parents please fill the form and send to us next week. If you cannot find the copy given to you, kindly make a request via email and we will send a soft copy.

## **SCHOOL GARDEN**

Our school garden is doing well and during the course of the week we harvested spinach, okra, cucumber and tomatoes. We are proud of our green fingers and are tending the vegetable patch so it can bear more nutritional produce for our kitchen. The cucumber was washed, sliced and

enjoyed by some pupils in their sandwiches on Wednesday.

Pupils in Years 1-4 were given seeds and cups on the last day of school to plant over the holiday and bring back to school to be transplanted into the garden. The FarmLiteracy team were at school on Tuesday to remind pupils of that holiday task and to request all plants be brought in next week Monday to school. Well done to all pupils who carried out the exercise.

### SCHOOL FEES

Our accounts show that many parents have paid school fees for the term. Kindly send the bank teller or other bank documentation to the school for account reconciliation. Thereafter, a school receipt will be issued to confirm payment. Kindly support us by sending in the bank documentation with your child's name and class written clearly on it.

### UNIFORMS

We notice that some pupils have outgrown their uniforms. As a result, the uniform always looks unkempt on them as they cannot button up properly, keep their shirt tucked in amongst other things. All uniforms are available in the store, please place an order through any member of the Admin team.

### DELTA EXAMS

This is to inform you that the DELTA examination has been scheduled for the months of March and May 2017. The DELTA examination is a diploma examination in the French language issued by the Ministry of Education, Paris, France. It certifies to

the level of language proficiency of the holder. It is accepted worldwide and unlike TOEFL and IELTS, doesn't expire.

The DELTA Examination has five levels: DELTA A1.1, A1, A2, B1, B2. The pupils at Oakland International School will be writing the first level; DELTA Prim A1.1.

The year 4 pupils of the Oakland International School will undergo special preparations for the examination by the French Teacher, Mlle. Nnenna Onyima. The preparation for the examination will take place on Thursdays 14:00-15:00. This implies that the year 4 class will be having French as their free club.

The pupils will be writing the examination in the month of May. This is to accord adequate time and preparation for the examination. The exact date and fee for the examination will be communicated to you at a later date. We request your support and encouragement as we help your child acquire his/her first diploma.

### ACADEMICS

Please remind your child to use the Purple Mash to practice their Maths, English and other subjects at home. The school will be conducting a GL assessment for pupils in Years 1 to 4 just before the half term. This will help us track children as against the UK national expectations.

The school has a blog on the website ([www.oaklandintlschool.com](http://www.oaklandintlschool.com)) and as part of our digital literacy programme each class will be blogging their research work soon so please watch out to read their interesting research linked to the curriculum. We will inform you when to

look out for the blogs. Follow us on twitter and Instagram @oaklandintlsch and @oisabuja for facebook.

### PHOTO GALLERY

Our photo gallery this week tracks activities at school inside and outside the classroom. We harvested a huge cucumber from our school garden and the pupils had it in their sandwiches at breakfast time.

P. E sessions held across the school and the members of the FarmLiteracy Co were at school to reward the pupils who planted their seeds over the holiday and brought them back to school as instructed. Congratulations go to:

- Year 1.....Aila Ajisafe
- Year 2.....Abdul Marafa
- Year 3..... Fatima Abba-Kaka

Transplanting was also done by the pupils and other garden tasks accomplished.

Finally, all Academic staff had 2 training sessions with Mrs Laura Alabi on how to support children with their learning. It was very informative.





We hope all families enjoy a good and restful weekend.

**OIS MANAGEMENT.**