



Dear Parents,

GREETINGS

Welcome to a brand new year. There is renewed hope, new opportunities and new adventures to be had. There are new lessons to learn, new blessings to receive and of course new ways to show love, care and concern for others. We welcome in particular all new parents and pupils to our school, we thank you for making us the school of choice and look forward to a happy and progressive relationship with you.

We are a happy school first and foremost, we teach more than the academics with our rich co-curricular programme and integrate our 5 core values into everything we do. They are:

- Respect
- Independent
- Confident
- Reflect
- Inspiration

At Oakland International School, we believe in educating the whole child.

CALENDAR FOR TERM 2

We sent the soft copy of the Term 2 calendar on Monday 8th January to all parents. Kindly print a copy and pin up in a strategic location in your home to serve as a visual reminder. It also helps to highlight the key events as a gentle reminder for yourself and the children. For the benefit of the new parents, we have re-attached it to this email.

CONGRATULATIONS

We wish to congratulate Mr & Mrs Emmanuel Amoo (school librarian) who had a baby girl on 1st January 2018.

CURRICULUM OVERVIEWS

These are attached to the newsletter for all parents as a guide for the work ahead this term. Parents know what to expect and may be able to support the children better with suitable resources, documentaries on the television etcetera as applicable.

EVENTS

This term promises to be exciting and rather busy, as we have lined up for the children's learning experience, a variety of interesting activities to look forward to. On Thursday January 18th, we shall be welcoming all parents into school at 8.15am for this term's edition of the Parents' Coffee Morning. Before then though, we shall have the free clubs' week beginning on 15th of January. This will afford the children the opportunity to try out any clubs they have not experienced yet, to see if they would like to be part of them for the term. Please assist the children in their club choices. Clubs begin at 2.00pm and end at 3.00pm from Monday to Thursday. Clubs end at 2.30 pm on Friday.

On Thursday 1st February, we shall hold the maiden edition of Inter-House Spelling Bee competition at Oakland International School! The details of this event will be communicated to the OIS family at a later date.

Inter-house sports day comes up on Friday 9th February 2018 and leads us into the half term break. Sports day is a whole family affair and promises to be more competitive as we have seen the house point system become more relevant at our school. It is an event not to miss, please diarise the date and prepare to come in your child's house colours to support the pupils.

Finally, Literacy week begins on the 26th of February and runs through the week culminating on the 1st of March with the grand finale of World Book Day!

ACADEMICS

In the midst of all of these, teaching and learning will beat its highest standard. All the children in the Primary Years will sit the tri-weekly tests in Mathematics, English and Science. The teachers are also supported through the Continuous Professional Development (CPD) programme, with the latest trends, pedagogies and ideas for innovative and creative teaching.

We appreciate that we are all busy people, but you must put a routine in place to ensure that children know they must do their home learning – homework, reading etc... Reading from real books (*not electronic*) is important for children to develop a love of books. Having a range of books at home and regular visits to the library- if possible- also encourages this. At this time, turn the television and /or computer off. Use the television and or computer as incentives for work done – they will value it more.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

All the classes have been allotted a date to stage and conduct their Friday whole school assemblies. This term, we hope that we will be able to invite the parents of the presenting class to come and support the children with moral boosts.

PUNCTUALITY & DRESSING

The children are ambassadors of our school. When they are seen anywhere, the first point of attraction, and of course, assessment of the school, is their appearance. We therefore want to urge all to ensure that they are neatly dressed in the complete school uniform at all times; shirt/blouse, shorts/pinafore; navy blue pair of socks, black shoes and a tie for the boys and the girls in Key Stage II.

One of the most important virtues to bequeath to generations to come is respect for time. It is pertinent that this is taught through practical exhibition. We would like to encourage parents to ensure that the children are brought into school on time, lessons begin at 8.00 a.m. therefore all children are expected to be in school before 7.50 a.m.

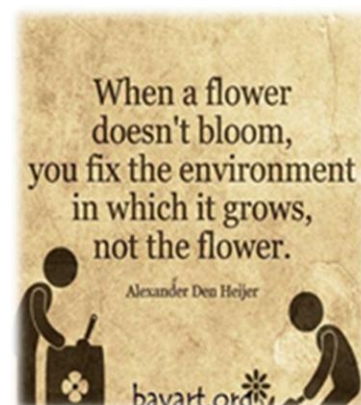
Similarly, we are working hard at school to encourage healthy eating, smart choices and healthy life style. Could we ask that all juices and fizzy drinks are not sent in with children and in their place, send in some fruits to boost their immune system. We are embarking on a water drive for all pupils, please ensure your child has a water bottle for school with a leak-proof cap.

INTRODUCING THE SEN (SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS) DEPARTMENT

At Oakland International School, we are committed to supporting every child individually. We celebrate individual strengths, support and develop areas the child is experiencing difficulty in and ensure “no child is left behind”.

The SEN department has been put in place to map out provisions and create a realistic, progressive and personalised learning experience for each child at O.I.S. who requires additional support.

So many children in schools have been called 'stupid' because teachers did not know how to, nor have the tools to accommodate children's varying learning needs in the classroom.



We are developing an environment where every child can demonstrate their ability with independence and thrive at their own pace.

Every child can succeed, and we are aware of this at OIS!

Ruth Z. Igunbor,

SEN Co.

MATH BOOSTER CLASSES

Our Maths Booster Classes resume on Tuesday 16th January 2018. Classes hold on Tuesdays and Thursdays mornings from 7.30 – 8.20 am for all pupils in Years 3 to 5. We appeal to parents that pupils be brought into school promptly, on both days we will open the gates at 7.25 am for pupils to get to class and start their lessons. We cannot do this alone and implore parents to be conscientious about this exercise. Thank you.

PHOTO GALLERY

Please find some photographs from school this week around play time, teaching and learning.



Maths out-door lesson



Maths is learnt easier with visuals and resources that make it “real” and “applicable”



We learn through play in a fun and relaxed atmosphere.



We love to get lost inside a good book, it takes us on a magical adventure.



Sharing a book with a friend makes it twice as much fun.

Many thanks to Mr Amoah for the contributing articles this week and of course to Ms Ruth. We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school on Monday. Do have a pleasant weekend.

Regards,

OIS MANAGEMENT.