

The Swaminarayan

EDUCATION IS THAT WHICH LIBERATES

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Welcome back.

We all hope everyone had a very relaxing summer break and are ready to join us on yet another exciting journey for this year. This summer the school replaced all the fire doors and resurfaced the roof on the main block. As always the cleaners and caretakers have done a wonderful job getting the school ready for this academic year under the guidance of Paresh Patel. I want to thank everyone for their effort during the holidays in getting the school ready for this year.

Theme for next week

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

Excellent Performance in External Results 2019

At A Level, all four students have achieved their places at universities, two of which are part of the Golden Triangle: Imperial College and King’s College; two more students will be going to Birmingham and Hertfordshire. My congratulations to all four students.

At GCSE, 68% of the grades are at 9-7/A*-A with one of only sixteen schools with 100% pass rate of A*-C/9-4 (source: Independent Schools Council). We continue to remain one of the best performing co-educational independent schools in the country.

With TSS no longer taking 6th Form students, all our pupils have found places at maintained or independent schools. This is especially pleasing for a moderately selective intake. Some of the highlight figures include:

- 68% of the grades at A⁻-A & 9-7
- Points per pupil of 83 is equivalent to nine grade 9s per pupil;
- 100% of the grades at 4/C or better.
- 100% of the grades at A⁻-C & 9-4

The government has imposed a lot of changes on the current cohort so it is pleasing to deliver another fine set of results for the pupils despite the pressures of these changes. We didn’t make it easier for them by enforcing the more difficult triple science GCSE option of Biology, Chemistry and Physics where students are required to learn a third more content for each of the sciences to get the best grades. Yet with a clear strategy of spreading the burden over two years and extra support that focuses on what is best for the pupils, we have managed to deliver another outstanding set of results. We are all very proud of the pupils and congratulate them for another superb year. I have been checking the value-added for many of the pupils, and it is no surprise to me that many of the pupils have delivered a two grade progress from Senior 1-5. Parents will find the breakdown of all the summer results on the school website in due course. Well done to the students, teachers and parents for another exceptional year of performance.

Contact with the School and New Tutors

Parents should note that the Reception will be manned by Sushma Purohit until 4.30 pm. While we

will endeavor to respond to your queries as soon as possible, we have to work under the constraints provided but hope parents will make greater use of the teacher email: full name of teacher@tssuk.org. The new tutors for S4-6 are as follows:

Upper 6	Mr. M Golledge
Senior 5P	Ms. V Ramphal
Senior 5Y	Dr. M Chouder
Senior 4P	Mr. S Ragvani
Senior 4Y	Mr. I Murton

The children know their tutors and will inform you accordingly. The Office will remain closed during lunch time between 1-2pm.

Parents of A Level Economics group should note that there will be Saturday lessons every fortnight. Flexibility is required if the situation demands.

STAFF LIST - 2019-2020

HEAD TEACHER

Nilesh Manani BSc (Hons), FRSA, PGCE

SENIOR TEACHER/HEAD OF IT & TECHNOLOGY:

Mounir Chouder BSc (eq) (Setif) MPhil DPhil Tcert

HEAD OF ENGLISH: Vidya Ramphal BA (Classics), QTS

HEAD OF 6th FORM & DRAMA: Matthew Golledge BA, PGCE

HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY: Michael Partington BA, PGCE

HEAD OF HISTORY: Monica Malhotra, BA, PGCE

HEAD OF ART: Helen Carr BA, DipEd, PGCE (Art)

HEAD OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION: Ian Murton, BA, PGCE

HEAD OF MATHEMATICS: Andrew Stewart-Brown BSc, BA, MA, BSc; PGCE

Lekshmy Bose BEng, MSc, PGCE

HEAD OF ECONOMICS: Alex Zlatopolkis, MA, BA, PGCE

HEAD OF SCIENCE: Srikanth Ragvani BSc; B Ed, PGCE

James Hopkins BSc, PGCE - Chemistry

Charles Cotton BSc (Hons), M. Phil - Physics

Chandrika Depala - Technician

HEAD OF FRENCH: Christelle Driscoll MA, BA, PGCE

HEAD OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Dhruvi Parshotam BSc (Hons) PGCE (masters)

HEAD OF GUJARATI: Lalji Ladwa BSc

SENCO: Louise Whittles BA Hons, MA, Postgrad Diploma, Adv Cert in Ed & Psychology for Special needs, MFA

DUKE OF EDINBURGH Award: Sadrik Pinto BSc QTS

ADMIN STAFF:

Bursar: Paresh Patel BA (Hons) FCCA

Secretary/Receptionist: Sushma Purohit

Caretaker: Dineshbhai

Gate Security: Laljibhai

U6 Parents' Meeting

This is a crucial year for the Upper 6 students so we have organised a very early meeting with the parents to ensure we are all ready to help the students to achieve their best grades. At stake are the university places. The UCAS application process will be completed by Christmas. The meeting between the teachers, parents and students will take place on Thursday, 3rd October 2019 between 4.30-7.00pm in the Yogi Hall. It is also an opportunity at an early stage in A2.

Senior 5 Parents' Meeting

After the GCSE results this summer for their early entries, it is important that we have this meeting

before the half-term break so that we can have a clear strategy for the rest of the year before their final set of GCSEs in Summer 2020. **Parents should note that while I had penciled in an earlier meeting in September, it was felt with many new teachers teaching them the meeting would serve the students best if we held it much later: 17th October 2019 between 4.30 and 7.00pm, so apologies for the short notice of cancellation.**

Reading for Learning

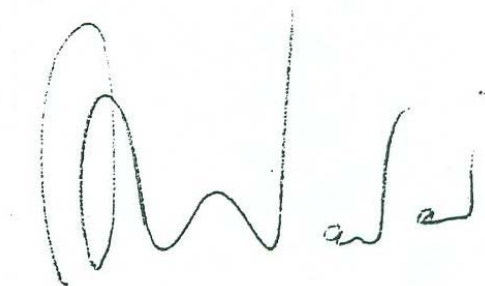
The ability to read is fundamental to all forms of academic learning. It gives you access to all written sources of human knowledge that people the world over have acquired through thousands of years of our civilisation. In fact the ability to read in this day and age is fundamental to a fruitful and productive life.

If you are planning to follow an academic path through your young life, you must master the different reading techniques to learn from your reading. The 'SQ3R' formula has often been found to be useful. It encourages a systematic active approach to reading. These are divided into five strands: Survey, Question, Read, Recall and Review.

1. **SURVEY:** requires you to survey the book, the article or a chapter as a whole. It means examining the chapter quickly by reading the first and last paragraphs and looking at the various section headings.
2. **QUESTIONS:** Before you start to read anything, look at the title and think of some questions that you may want answered; more questions will arise as you read more, write them down and see if they are answered. The process of asking questions concentrates your mind on what you are reading and helps you to think about the author's argument and relate it to what you already know and what you need to find out.
3. **READ:** Once you have identified these initial questions, you should read the whole chapter, article or essay without making any notes and make sure you get an overview of the content. You cannot get a grasp of main ideas until you have read it the first time. Once you have done this, divide the article, chapter or essay into small sections, paragraphs and read it carefully to understand its meaning.
4. **RECALL:** You are now ready to make notes. Write a brief statement in your own words what each section is about – write it on the side of the section. Writing the main point in your own words enables you to process the information and embrace it into your own thinking, and subsequently your own writing.
5. **REVIEW:** Ask if you have grasped the main ideas. Have the questions you wrote initially been answered? Do your notes reflect this and make sense? Do you know what the article, chapter or essay about?

This process of active reading is time-consuming but ultimately very beneficial to your understanding and formulation of ideas.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nilesh Manani', written in a cursive style.

Nilesh Manani