

The Swaminarayan

EDUCATION IS THAT WHICH LIBERATES

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

We all hope everyone had a very relaxing summer break and are ready to join us on yet another exciting journey for this year. 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. The office staff have manned the Office throughout the summer. 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 2018

At **A level**, The Daily Telegraph smaller independent schools league table listed the school at number 20. Notable mention must be given to the following students:

Yogesh Patel	A*A*A*A	Dentistry	QMC/Barts
Ishaan Vadgama	A*A*A*	Engineering	Cambridge
Jai Patel	A*AAB	PPE	LSE
Hinal Patel	A A A	Dentistry	Cardiff
Naiya Desai	A*ABB	Chemistry	GAP
Akhil Bhargava	A*A B	Mathematics	QMC
Ravi Mooruth	A A B	Biomed	St George’s
Sharad Patel	AAC	Finance	Nottingham
Dhruvi Patel	A B B	Liberal Arts	Exeter

It is especially pleasing to witness students exploring a diverse range of careers to break the traditional preference for the sciences and finance.

At **GCSE Independent Schools Council** listed TSS as the best performing co-educational independent school in England. The publication of the GCSE results of 2018 has delivered another superb year for pupils at The Swaminarayan School, in fact delivering the second **BEST GCSE RESULTS EVER**. This is especially pleasing for a moderately selective intake. I will publish the names of the notable achievers in due course since some students have requested remarks.

Some of the highlight figures include:

- 71% of the grades at A⁻-A & 9-7
- Points per pupil of 85; equivalent to 12 A* grades 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 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.

Source: ISC

School	Association	Points Per Student	GCSE Per Student	% A ⁺ to C	% 9-4
Westminster School	HMC, AGBIS, ISBA	89.72	10.8	100	100
North London Collegiate School	GSA, AGBIS, ISBA	88.99	10.57	100	100
King's College School (KCS)	HMC, AGBIS	86.68	10.58	100	100
The Swaminarayan School	ISA, AGBIS, ISBA	85.86	11.88	100	100
City of London School For Girls	HMC, GSA, AGBIS, ISBA	85.32	10.4	100	100
Guildford High School for Girls	HMC, IAPS, AGBIS	84.77	10.13	100	100
St Mary's School Ascot	HMC, GSA, AGBIS, ISBA	84.73	10.15	99.51	100
The Perse School	HMC, IAPS, AGBIS, ISBA	83.56	10.15	100	100
Oundle School	HMC, AGBIS, ISBA	82.48	10.95	98.83	99.79
James Allen's Girls' School	HMC, IAPS, GSA, AGBIS, ISBA	82.42	10.16	100	99.87
Magdalen College School	HMC, IAPS, AGBIS, ISBA	82.2	9.99	99.8	100
Alleyn's School	HMC, AGBIS, ISBA	82.07	10.19	99.79	99.9
Royal Grammar School	HMC, IAPS, AGBIS, ISBA	81.88	10.7	97.75	99.62
Reigate Grammar School	HMC, AGBIS, ISBA	81.69	11.06	92.93	99.89
St Francis' College	GSA, AGBIS, ISBA	81.63	11.84	98.33	98.48
Notting Hill and Ealing High School GDST	GSA, AGBIS	81.35	10.09	100	99.8
St Catherine's, Bramley	GSA, AGBIS, ISBA	81.16	10.65	97.8	99.5
King Edward VI High School for Girls	GSA, AGBIS	80.95	9.88	99.42	100
Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School	HMC, ISBA	80.39	10.02	99.77	100

New Staff

I want to welcome the following new staff to the school:

Ms. Faye Caldwell	Head of English
Mr. Matthew Golledge	Head of Drama
Mr. Bikram Rai	Teacher of History
Mr. Tejash Depala	Teacher of Boys' PE

Upper 6 & Senior 5 Parents' Consultation Evening

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 with the parents and students will take place on Thursday, 27th September 2018 between 4.30-7.00pm in the Yogi Hall. It is also an opportunity at an early stage in A2 and for Senior 5 a chance to discuss the results of the summer examinations and plan a way forward for the remaining GCSEs.

Enquiries about Exam Results, EARs (GCSE and A level) - Mr Cotton writes:

Parents/Pupils wishing to make enquiries about exam results should in the first instance consult with their subject teacher. Please note that re-marks are expensive and marks can go down as well as up. So you do need to carefully consider this. It is also possible to order your exam paper script or script copy back. This costs less at around £10 per paper depending on the exam board. There may be some circumstances where the script may be able to be seen without cost. We have not used the "Clerical Re-Check" service available at a similar cost.

The deadline for making any type of enquiry about exam results is 20th September, though I would recommend that these are processed this week or next. Please bring cheque book with you to pay if we do proceed with EAR (Cheques would be payable to The Swaminarayan School). Congratulations to all on the efforts and achievements here.

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,

Nilesh Manani