

The Swaminarayan

EDUCATION IS THAT WHICH LIBERATES

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Theme of the Week: Trust

Car Park on Thursday, 12th and Friday, 13th October 2017

The main school car park will be used for setting up marquees on Thursday and Friday next week. Parents are reminded of the following arrangements for dropping pupils off:

1. On Thursday 12th morning: Please drop pupils off in the main school car park but pick them up from the Tennis court car park. Only the gate next to the Science Block will be open. Parents are requested to use the footpath.
2. Please use the Tennis Court car park for dropping and picking pupils up on Friday. Once again use the gate next to the Science Block.
3. Please use the main school car park from Monday to Wednesday as present.

SCHOOL OPEN DAY 4th November 2017

Time: 11am to 1pm

All parents and friends are warmly invited. This is a really good time to speak to the teachers in their classrooms, laboratories and studios.

Half Term

The school will be closed for two weeks during the Diwali half term break from Monday, 16th to Friday, 27th October 2017. Annakut day is on Friday, 20th October 2017. We hope to see many of you in the marquee which will be set up in the school car park this year. Pupils and staff return to school on Monday, 30th October 2017.

Senior 4 Parents' Consultation Evening

Senior 4 will be writing several important GCSE examinations in the summer next year, so this is a crucial evening to evaluate how well all the pupils are performing. As always this meeting will take place on Thursday, 2nd November 2017 between 4.30-7.00pm in the Yogi Hall.

Internal/Mock Examination Timetable Autumn Term 2017

Pupils and parents are reminded about the End of Term Internal/Mock Examinations which will take place for all Seniors 1-5 between Wednesday, 15 to Tuesday, 21 November 2017. The timetable for the examinations will be issued as soon as it is ready. These are important examinations and pupils should use some of the two weeks half term break to revise.

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award. Taster night by Vivek Lad, S4 writes:

On 6th October, all of the Senior 4's went to Kings Langley, Hertfordshire, for our DoE practice expedition. There were 5 groups in total participating with all the groups having to carry their own tents, cooking stoves and food as it was an overnight stay. Each group was given two maps from which they had to make their way towards three different checkpoints only using the maps, compasses and the navigational skills they had been taught. It was exhilarating!

Some groups found this more difficult than others but they soon managed to improve their map work skills. During the stay at the campsite, each group learned how to erect a tent. We also had to cook our own food which for some of the boys was a novel experience and clean our own equipment when we were done. This was a real eye opener for us. I'm really glad we did it.

Overall, this experience helped everyone to understand how to be more independent in difficult situations when you have the most basic of materials. Doing this taught me a lot about things I didn't know how to do before like camp craft skills. We had such fun and I think we learned how to be resilient and cope with our personalities working in a team. The campfire to finish off the night was fun. Everyone enjoyed themselves and it was a memorable experience. I cannot wait for the next expedition but I will definitely have to brush up on my washing up skills!

Thanks to all of the teachers for providing us with this opportunity.



Khushi looking happy and raring to go!



Shyam showing off his managerial qualities whilst Jaymi gets on with pitching the tent.

Trust in God

There once lived a young priest in a small town in England. It was raining heavily outside so the priest decided to make good use of his time and sat down to write his Sunday sermon. Halfway through the sermon a police officer knocked on his door to alert him that the river had broken its banks and the town was at risk of being flooded. He told him to take his belongings and move to the shelter on top of a hill.

As he was collecting his essential belongings a thought occurred to him that he should keep faith in God that nothing would happen to him. He told the waiting police officer that he would trust in God and stay in the house. Even when the flood water rose to his knees the priest continued to write. A little later a fireman knocked on the window and told him the water was still rising and he should evacuate. The priest said that God would make sure no harm would come to him and continued writing. When the flood water rose to his waist the priest collected his papers, the bible and moved upstairs. A knock on the upstairs window alerted him to a large boat outside his house. An officer from the navy told him that he had to evacuate if he was to survive. Once again the priest told him that God would look after him and he would stay in the house. When the flood water rose higher the priest climbed the roof of the house and continued to write the sermon. A helicopter flew

over his house to rescue him but the priest told them that he was a man of faith and no harm would come to him.

A little later a sudden surge of water swept the priest away and he drowned.

In heaven, the priest stood in front of God and asked him, "My Lord, I showed faith in you until the very end and yet you did not come to rescue me."

God gazed at him lovingly and said, "My son, I sent the policeman to save you but you ignored him. I sent the fireman and you ignored him. I sent the navy to rescue you and still you ignored them. As a last effort I even sent a helicopter to pick you up and yet again you refused to be saved."

The priest looked down in embarrassment. "My Lord, I have been blind and I do not deserve to be with you."

When we say our prayers with our heart, God always listens; he will not always come but surely send someone to show us the way. Only we must stretch out our arms and reach for the help that God sends.

Diwali and Annakut

We look forward to meeting you while sampling the delicious dishes on offer in the Shayona Marquee. May I take this opportunity on behalf of all the staff, Governors and Trustees of the School to wish you all a wonderful Diwali, and a most peaceful and prosperous New Hindu Year.

Yours sincerely,

Nilesh Manani