

# The Swaminarayan

**EDUCATION IS THAT WHICH LIBERATES**

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

The Theme for next week is the International Men's Day, which will celebrate all men and boys on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

## OBJECTIVES OF INTERNATIONAL MEN and BOYS DAY

The 6 Pillars of International Men's Day

1. **To promote positive male role models;** not just movie stars and sports men but every day, working class men who are living decent, honest lives.
2. **To celebrate men's positive contributions to society,** community, family, marriage, child care, and to the environment.
3. **To focus on men's health and wellbeing;** social, emotional, physical and spiritual.
4. **To highlight discrimination against men;** in areas of social services, social attitudes and expectations, and law
5. **To improve gender relations and promote gender equality**
6. **To create a safer, better world;** where people can be safe and grow to reach their full potential.

### Prize Day on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 6.30pm

This year's Prize Day will take place in Mandir on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 6.30pm in the Mandir. Parents are reminded that we will finish the school at 12.55pm on the day so that everyone can return for the prize evening refreshed. Our students have worked extremely hard over the year, despite the adverse circumstances and deserve this recognition. I do hope we will have full attendance in the evening.

### Celebrating the achievements of former boys at TSS

In the week when we celebrate men and boys, I want to highlight the achievements of some of our finest former boys who have gone onto carve out some exceptional careers in four diverse fields as Engineering, Medicine, Computer Science and Business.



**An Interview with Parth Patel** who attended Imperial College after completing his A Levels at the school to read Mechanical Engineering. He is a senior mechanical engineer in the oil and gas industry with experience in the aerospace industry. He recently completed an MBA at Oxford University.

#### **Tell us about your studies at Imperial.**

"I learnt how to think in a broad manner and solve problems. Academically, it was very challenging, but it was a very good foundation to begin a career."

#### **Tell us about your work history.**

"I work as a senior mechanical engineer in the oil and gas industry, involved in project design, execution and management. Prior to this I worked in the aerospace industry as a design engineer. My role involved design work, design review, contract management, supervision, commercial and legal considerations and problem solving on site."

**How has your time at Imperial helped you in your career to date?**

"My time at Imperial provided a sound technical background and allowed me to think in a broad manner and solve problems in a manner that others with engineering backgrounds cannot."

**What are your career highlights?**

"My career highlight was working on a gas to liquids plant in Qatar for three years, helping resolve engineering, construction, commissioning, start-up, operations and maintenance issues. Having worked on the project for two years in London beforehand, it was very rewarding to be able to see the project come together on site and through to operation."

**What are your future ambitions regarding your career?**

"I hope to begin to move into more senior project management roles."

**What advice would you give to current students?**

"To current mechanical engineering students I would suggest that while focusing on passing exams etc. they take enough time to really understand the fundamental and practical knowledge they are exposed to so that when they take up a career in engineering, they can think for themselves and challenge the existing standards and practices in a competent manner, using that ability to solve problems."

**What's the most difficult decision you've ever had to make?**

"It was difficult to decide whether to stay in engineering or try to get a job in finance in London. Staying in engineering has paid off - and it pays just as well."

**What are you most proud of?**

"My work in the Qatar, specifically helping to erect a very problematic 140m tall flare derrick (part of a refinery) with eight risers."

**Dr Hemanshoo Thakkar, MBBS, BSc, MRCS,**

joined us in Year 7 and after completing his A levels at TSS he secured a place in medicine at King's College, University of London. Few years ago he qualified as a paediatric surgeon and currently works as a senior registrar at Great Ormond Street Hospital.



**Mitesh Patel** completed his A Levels at TSS and founded Fifosys in 2001 following completion of a Masters degree in Computer Science.

Working from a desk in the university library, with £3,000 to launch his company, Mitesh has steadily grown and developed the business both organically and through acquisition, with an emphasis on straight-talking, practical help focused on helping clients improve their business performance through maximising their IT investment and services.

Mitesh leads the Fifosys business strategy and an experienced management team dedicated to driving the company forward. Mitesh also works to encourage and mentor enterprising young people who are just starting out on their business careers.

**Dhaval Mistry** attended TSS during his most formative years until he completed his A Levels. He achieved some exceptional GCSE results in 2005. He went on to study Mathematics and Economics at London School of Economics after completing his A Levels in the school.

An exceptionally talented young man, **Dhaval** is a director at the **Niveda** Group of Companies developing the group's interests across the industries of real estate, finance, manufacturing, infrastructure and energy.



All the former student continue to make their contribution to the school with many returning to speak to our 6<sup>th</sup> Form students; Parth and Dhaval, have served on the TSS Alumni Committee. They have been instrumental in bringing together many former pupils, offering networking opportunities and support for all of them. Even though the school will not be here in a few years' time, I have every confidence that the spirit of our students will continue to light the beacon and inspire others.

**May God Bless everyone as we begin another year. We hope it brings much joy and peace.**

**Yours sincerely,**

**Nilesh Manani**