

Thursday, 19th March 2015

No. 26

The Swaminarayan

Education is that which liberates

www.swaminarayan.brent.sch.uk

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Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Theme for next week

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

Opening Evening Friday, 20th March 2015

All parents are invited to the Open Evening in the school between 6-8 pm on Friday, 20th March 2015. The pupils will stay in the school throughout the day and attend demonstration lessons during the evening. Visitors will be able to view all the exciting things we do and what enables our humble school to achieve so much.

DRAMA NEWS: THE SSTC AT ASCOT- *Mr Benny writes:*

“Intelligent ... sophisticated ... original”—thus spoke the judge in her assessment of the SSTC production, *An American Quartet*, at Ascot last Saturday, on stage at breakfast, time 9 a.m! Competing in the ISA Drama Competition with over 20 to 30 schools, our S3 GCSE actors gave their fabulous all. We will not know the results for a few weeks or so; suffice it to note, the cast has been requested to perform again, to share their excellence here at TSS on Tuesday, 24 March, at 8.50 a.m. There will be two performances, each 25 minutes long.

All the cast and crew (Gauranga Purohit) deserve gold laurels for their outstanding teamwork and acting: Urvi Dudeja, Payal Halai, Alisha Lakha, Reashan Naheerathan, Ananya Nath, Adithya Puravankara and Rhea Vekaria.



Dristi Patel Year 12 writes ...

During our last AIG lesson we had a helpful lecture presented by a representative of the University of Northumbria situated in Newcastle. Sarah informed us of the variety of courses offered by the university. She also gave us a slight insight into university life and the living situation.

What was most interesting about the lecture was the assistance she gave us in preparing for the UCAS convention. This took place on the 18th March, where all Year 12 students will attend. We are now more

knowledgeable about UCAS and we have a better idea which lectures to attend and how to make the most of the event. Thank you Ms Maharaj for arranging this for us.

Senior 5 Duke of Edinburgh Award Silver Practice Expedition to the North Downs. Sooruj Shah (S5S) and Nikita Patel (S5G) write...

Last Thursday, the Senior 5 students went on a 3 day Duke of Edinburgh Expedition to the North Downs. It is safe to say that we all had a great time even though tent pitching and cooking in the dark was a challenge. The 3 days we spent involved a fair amount of walking (44km) and camp craft activities which tested everyone's resolve to their limits. We were lucky enough to have sunny spells even though Mr Pinto harped on about how wet it was going to be. We guess the tides change for great people!

Over the days we were there we climbed many hills, crossed many rivers and lost our way several times but managed to resurrect our routes and always got to the campsite! The area around Shere, Dorking and Reigate is truly beautiful. In fact on the first day, one group spent an hour circling a field in the dark which was right next to their campsite. (No prizes for guessing whose group it was Sooruj!) We think we're now ready to conquer Dartmoor.

Lessons to be learned involve; boys need to learn how to wash up...we don't need to take so many clothes and we need to learn to cook properly as there were lots of burnt efforts.

However, it was a practice Expedition and that is the only way to learn.... by making lots of mistakes. We loved it and can't wait for the Test. Come on Senior 5!

Many thanks to all the teachers - Mr. Pinto, Mr. Patel, Miss Guly, Miss Morrison and Mr Worth.

Reading for Learning

Think

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 civilisation. In fact, the ability to read in this day and age is fundamental to a fruitful and productive life.

Feel

If you are planning to follow an academic path through your young life, you must master the different techniques to learn from your reading.

Do

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: Survey the book, article or 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. QUESTION: 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, but 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 or 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 down the side of each section about the content. 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 yourself if you have grasped the main ideas. Have the questions you have written initially been answered? Do your notes reflect this and make sense? Do you know what the article, chapter or essay is about?

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

Shared Transport

Mr S Nath Lyttelton Road London N2 0EB Tel: 07824 590 998

Daily Transport pick up and drop off services

A daily transport service is available at a very reasonable price (£5-10) for the following postcode areas:

Brent Postcode:	HA9, 0;
Postcodes:	UB3, 4, 5, 6-9
Harrow postcode:	HA1, 2, 3, 4, 5;
North West postcodes:	NW9, 0
Watford postcodes	WD 6, 7, 23, 25

Interested parents should directly contact Mr Hiren Patel on 07808645662

Parents are informed that the school will not play any part in this service; it is fully autonomous, organised by a parent.

Yours sincerely,

Nilesh Manani

S2 Business Studies trip to Cadbury World

I am delighted to inform you that on 16th March we took our S2 students to Cadbury World! The trip was designed to impart knowledge of Advertising in product marketing. Students had a one hour lesson with the Cadbury World staff explaining the various stages of development of Cadbury World followed by the tour of the factory and chocolate tasting.



We then offered our students an opportunity to have lunch onsite to share their learning and understanding from the day's events.

The trip was planned to be a

part of their future Business Studies curriculum and I am pleased to inform you that it went as planned.

As always my sincere thanks to Mr Manani and Ms Maharaj for their continued support and encouragement, allowing me to plan various events to improve and enrich learnings of our young people.



With thanks

Arpan Dutta

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