

The Swaminarayan

EDUCATION IS THAT WHICH LIBERATES

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Theme for next week

The theme for next week is: **Kindness**. I have written about it on the back of the newsletter.

Senior 3 Parents' Information Afternoon

My sincere thank you to all the parents who came to the meeting yesterday. This was an important first meeting to chart the path of the Senior 3 pupils over the next three years with clear targets and benefits of achieving the goals we have set them. I know they are potentially a really good year but will need to work hard and mature fast.

Car Safety

While we are sure all parents are very careful, you should know that two local youths tried to get into the car of one of our parents near Brentfield Road yesterday while they were driving. Fortunately, the car was locked and they couldn't get in. May we request parents to make sure that they lock their cars from the inside whilst driving.

Upper Sixth Parents' Consultation Evening **TODAY**

This will take place in the Yogi Hall today between 4.30-7pm. It is an opportunity at an early stage in A2 to discuss the results of the summer examinations and plan a way forward.

Prize/Speech Day

Parents and students should note that this year's Prize Day will be held on Friday, 25th November 2016 at the Mandir at 6.30 pm.

The Swaminarayan School Open Day
Saturday 24th September 2016
Time: 11am to 1.00 pm

Guidance for Sixth Form

Last Thursday we had three remarkable former students to give a lecture to the Sixth Form students about how to attain the best grades at A Level. All three were well placed to give the guidance since all have achieved outstanding success. Karuna Patel, who had attained one A* and 2A grades at A level and has recently completed her MPhil at Cambridge, Samanta Zahir, who attained three A* at A Level and has completed her first year in Medicine at Southampton, and Raksha Jain, who this year completed her A Levels at the school, achieved 3 A* grades and secured a place in Medicine at Queen Mary. All three agreed that A Levels would be their two most challenging years but if they focused and used their time in school productively they would succeed. While we as teachers will give the same message, I have always found that students respond better when their own peers speak of their experiences in the recent past.

WRITER'S CORNER – Mr Benny writes...

A welcome to all Year 7 students and other new recruits to TSS who love writing! Every two or three weeks, we try to publish in the newsletter anything of literary value – relating to any subject, in any genre, whether it be a poem, a short story, parts of an essay or piece of journalism or humour, or even an engaging piece of trivia. Should you have a contribution to be considered (however short or long), pop it on to a USB and hand it to one of the teachers in the English Department.

Wisdom of Ancient India 14

I am continuing this series from last year with a slide on Aviation.

aviation

The flying vehicles were firstly designated **Ratha** (vehicle or carriage) in the **Rig Veda**.

In the Ramayana both the words "**Vimana**" and "**Ratha**" have been used

Reference to Flying vehicles as **Vimana** occur in the **Mahabharata** in about 41 places of which the air attack of Salva on Krishna's capital Dwaraka.

Acharya Bharadwaj (800BC), author of "Yantra Sarvasva", describes three categories of flying machines:

- 1.) One that flies on earth from one place to another.
- 2.) One that travels from one planet to another.
- 3.) One that travels from one universe to another.

The diagrams at the bottom are labeled: **VEDIC VIMANA**, **VEDIC VIMANA**, and **VEDIC VIMANA**.

Kindness

Think

I have heard the words "be kind and the whole world will come to you" many times in my life. I have tested its power like no other human quality and I have always found it to be worthy of the power it wields. Kindness is like honey; sweet and smooth. It warms the hearts of all those who learn to give it without expecting anything in return. "Join the company of those who make the barren places of life fruitful with kindness", as one famous person once said, "and we will join the ranks of those who receive without asking."

Feel

A gesture of kindness brings out the best in the people who give it and also in those who receive it. Give it freely without asking for anything in return. People will look at you with suspicion at first if they are not used to seeing you like that, but in time you will feel them returning their kindness to you and you will win the praises of all those you know. Your life will become a most joyous journey, rich beyond all your imaginings and you will see that we receive what we give.

Do

Try this experiment today and observe its power. When you go down for your breakfast and greet your family, wish them a heartfelt good morning with a smile on your face. Make a gesture of kindness in a little act of giving something; a hug perhaps, even making a piece of toast or washing the dishes. Say "Thank you, Mum," if she has made your breakfast. Do any little act and watch their reaction. Do the same for the people on the street, a random act of kindness that they would never have expected. Do that with your friends, your teachers, someone you had a little tiff with, and smile with kindness.

Yours sincerely

Nilesh Manani