

The Swaminarayan

Education is that which liberates

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Theme for the week

The theme for next week is, “**Volunteering**”. I have written about it on the reverse of the newsletter.

Half-Term Holiday Next Week

After a busy period of the first half of the GCSE and A Level examinations, next week’s half-term break is a welcome relief for these students to prepare for the remaining examinations which will begin immediately when we return on Monday, 4th June 2018.

As always for all half-terms, the school office will remain open. If there are any urgent concerns about the examinations, parents are advised to contact the office who will alert me. Pupils coming in for extra lessons are required to sign in at the office.

Army Aviator Lt. Harmeet Singh Nijjar



On Wednesday 9th May, Lt. Harmeet Singh (third from left) visited the school to talk to our pupils in Year 11 about his experience of training as an Apache helicopter pilot. “I go into schools and colleges as much as I can,” said Harmeet. “The students are quite receptive. I can tell them about my experience on joining the army and training as a pilot. The British Army is a home for

everybody, no matter what kind of background you are from. I hope the students of The Swaminarayan School will see me as an example to follow.”

Boys PE – Mr Worth writes...

A busy half term is coming to an end, and with the weather on our side for a change, it has given us a chance to catch up on the recent sporting activities of the students over the last three weeks.

Cricket isn’t the only sport happening at the minute. With the Brent and ISA Athletics competitions also taking place this week. At the time of writing the Year 7s and Year 9s had competed against the best in the borough. A wonderfully positive atmosphere saw a number of the students put in fantastic performances. Most notably Komal Mardia achieving 1st place in the girls’ Year 9 Javelin and Janvi Patel achieving 1st in the Year 9 girls’ Discus. The boys also did their bit with Mohit Bakhda just missing out on a place in the 1500m and Shane Barrett missing out on the Year 9 100m by less than half a second. Hopefully more positive results to come in next week’s write up.

There were further opportunities for TSS students with the Year 8s competing against the local borough schools and the year 7, U14 and U16 teams competing in the ISA London North Competition

at Bedford Athletics Stadium. Both days allowed students to be tested in a variety of track and field events against some high quality opposition. Although no medals were won on the day, the students were able to take away vital experience for future competitions.

Cricket has seen students throughout Years 7 - 9 busy in both the Brent League and Middlesex Cup. Year 9 had their first cup fixture away to The Latymer School, Edmonton. Captained superbly by Devan Patel, the boys worked effectively as a team to push Latymer all the way before falling to a 24 run defeat. Yash Patel (13 runs) and Om Shah (10 runs) were the top batsmen. Whilst Moksh Garg impressed on debut with his bowling 8-0-12 along with Rahul Kumar 8-0-18 and Shyaam Rajani 18-2-18. The boys now move into the 1st Round of the plate competition and also start their Brent League campaign after half term.

The Year 8s have been the busiest of the year groups so far and were dominant in their 2nd Round Cup fixture versus local rivals JFS with a fine team fielding performance restricting JFS to 55 runs off of 15 overs. Abhishek Panchani (7-2-12) and Surya Bhojani (3-0-12) in particular leading the bowling attack before Pasan Archichage (23), Vyash Gajparia (9), Abhishek Panchani (5) and Parth Gandhi (8) chased them down in 5 overs.

They then took on Enfield Grammar in the 3rd Round of the competition, opting to bat first, Pasan Arichage (60) and Aum Patel (57) helped set another big target of 151-6. The ascendancy changed hands on numerous occasions throughout the innings, but with Avi Patel (13-1-24), Abhishek Panchani (25-1-24) Surya Bhojani (20-1-24) concise in their bowling and committed fielding from Daman Patel, Khush Sheth, Shivaan Varsani and Priyesh Shah, TSS were able to restrict the opposition to 127-4 off of 20 overs. The boys now travel to QE Boys or Pinner High in the quarter finals of the competition.

In between their cup exploits, the pupils have also stormed the Brent League with a mixture of fluent and dogged performances as the season has progressed. They beat current champions Claremont in a nail biting affair by 7 wickets. Pasan Arichage (25), Aum Patel (17), Avi Patel (25) working in partnership with the bat to chase down 101 off of 20 overs, after Abhishek Panchani (13-1-24) Vyash Gajparia (14-1-18) and Pasan (8-1-24) had prevented the opponents from putting on a big score. Next they defeated Preston Manor by 9 wickets, where the bowling and fielding was astute to restrict Preston Manor to 62-8. Surya Bhojani (5-2-18) and Abhishek Panchani (10-2-18) the pick of the bowlers, with Parth Gandhi also shining at wicket keeper in conditions less than perfect for open cricket. Pasan Arichage top scored with 42 not out.

In the final game of the half term, an untidy victory was secured against Alperton, the boys at times were frustrated by not bowling to their own high standards gave the opposition a number of extras to inflate their score. Dheer Khetani shone in his spell however with 6-1-12. Whilst Pasan was again top scorer (29), Vyash Gajparia was MOM with 13, lasting all 12 overs and working effectively to pick a competent Alperton bowling attack and rotate the strike effectively when it looked like the game was slipping away from them.

The Year 8s have 1 more game in the league versus JFS to secure top spot in their league.

The Year 7s also made a winning start to their Brent League campaign when taking on Alperton for their first hardball game of the season. Aum Patel and Avi Patel combined well to put on a partnership of 105 before being retired, helping TSS set a target of 149. With all students getting a chance to bowl, Alperton were restricted to just 92 with the top bowlers on the day being Vandan Patel (0-1-12), Khush Sheth (9-2-12) and Amar Bakhda (2-1-6). A fantastic result against a tricky and committed Alperton team.

In the Cup, the Year 7s are also through to the quarter finals of the Middlesex Cup having secured a comfortable victory versus Claremont High School. A mixture of aggressive and smart batting from Avi Patel (39) and Aum Patel (68) saw a target of 149 set. This was then followed by a varied bowling attack, Khush Sheth (3-3-18), Dheer Khetani (5-1-12), Rohan Oberoi (8-0-18) and committed fielding by Jay Bhojani (2 Catches), Sohan Mevani and Aryan Dusara to win by 56 Runs.

Dates for the Diary:

June 4th Year 8 Vs QE boys

June 5th U13 Mckinsey Cup Competition @ Kenton CC

June 7th Year 7 vs QE boys @ QE Year 9 vs Capital City @ Home

June 8th Year 7 vs Ark Elvin @ Ark Elvin.

There will be no afterschool training or matches the week commencing the 11th June due to internal exams.

WRITER'S CORNER

STORY WITH A TWIST

Rising to the challenge of writing a mini story with a twist or unexpected but credible ending, two of our Year 7 English team did just that. Hopefully, those supreme masters of the twist – Guy de Maupassant, Somerset Maugham, James Thurber and Roald Dahl, will join your company to enjoy Shaivi's and Esha's contributions.

STORY WITH A TWIST No. 1: 'Help'

By Shaivi Trivedi

IT WAS a cold winter's morning. The little sun that there was reflected on the ice that had accumulated on the footpath of Salisbury Road. Mr Ainsworth was making his way towards one of the most important business meetings he'd ever have. His hand was clasped on to his black briefcase and he walked confidently. With his smart suit and tie, anybody could tell that the man had authority. He walked across this little corner shop which had an old chap sitting out in front. He looked homeless. He was wrapped up in an extremely old brown blanket. His face and hands looked very dirty and he had an empty coffee cup in front of him. Mr Ainsworth dropped two pounds in his cup and smiled.

"Cheers mate!" the homeless man exclaimed.

"No problem," claimed Mr Ainsworth. Giving money to someone was just something that he did to prove that he really cared for other people.

When Mr Ainsworth had arrived at work, walking over to his cubicle to put down his briefcase and pick a pen and notepad, all these thoughts of his giving money to that homeless man kept on popping into his brain. He thought that if he put two or three pounds in the man's cup every day for the next year, the poor fellow would have enough money to rent a small apartment. Mr Ainsworth really did care for the homeless.

The next day Mr Ainsworth did not see the homeless man. He brushed it off thinking that he must have gone inside the shop to get some food. But for the next week the man and all his tatty belongings had vanished. He was nowhere to be found. Mr Ainsworth continued with his usual routine but, every now and then, a thought would pop into his head about the man. He started to wonder if maybe something bad had happened to him, the person that he did not know. By now he had come to feel more than a sense of emotional investment in him.

Weeks went by and he still had not seen the man, the beggar, until one day, Mr Ainsworth was on-route to his office when he noticed a familiar face. It was the homeless man! but he was clean and wearing a new shirt and trousers.

Mr Ainsworth went up to the man and said, "Weren't you the man I gave two pounds to a couple of weeks ago and then just disappeared?"

"Sir, it's a pleasure to see you! I thought I would never be able to thank you!" claimed the man.

"Thank me? For what?" Said Mr Ainsworth with a puzzled face.

"I hadn't gotten a penny in weeks and I had lost all me hope. When you gave me those two pounds, I couldn't really buy a square meal with it so I decided to use it to buy a lottery ticket. To me surprise, I actually won and by you giving me two pounds, it lead me to win one million smackers! So ... thank you."

Mr Ainsworth was so shocked, he didn't know what to say and he couldn't hold back the tsunami of tears that were about to fall, so he turned around and started to slowly walk to his car. "Perhaps I should become homeless," he muttered, and smiled.

STORIES WITH A TWIST No. 2

By Esha Parekh

SHE WOKE up to her daughter screaming out loud, "Mum!"

Quickly, she sprinted towards her daughter's room. The little girl was lying in the corner, holding her hands over her head, covering her face, as if she was trying to hide from somebody.

She hugged her and yelled, "Sweetie! Sweetie! It's me! Mum! Don't worry! What happened?"

The little girl cried out loud, "Mum! Mum! There's someone roaming around in our house!"

The reply came reassuringly, "No Sweetie, there is no one! You just had a bad dream! Calm down! Stop crying! I'm here!"

Pointing towards the door, the little girl screamed, "Mum! There he is! See! Mum! There!"

She turned back to see a man holding a knife his hand. The mother hugged her daughter and tried to scream out for help.

He moved closer to them and, looking into her eyes, said, "Sometimes, you have to listen to little kids! They speak the truth!" Then, coldly, he stabbed her heart with his knife.

Her husband woke up, shouting, "Hey! Hey! Relax! Calm down! May be you had a bad dream! Relax! Relax! Cool!"

His wife looked around, up and down, hugged her husband, and mumbled, "Oh! That's a very bad dream!"

She got up from her bed and moved towards her daughter's room. The little girl was still sleeping. She smiled, kissed her daughter on the forehead and returned to her bed.

Her husband asked, "Where did you go?"

She replied, "I just went to have a glance at our daughter, honey."

He whispered, "Honey, you know full well, we don't have a daughter...."

Volunteers' Week 1-7 June 2018

Volunteers' Week is a time to say thank you for the fantastic contribution volunteers make.

During the week, hundreds of events and celebrations take place across the country, saying thank you to volunteers and recognising their invaluable and diverse contribution to the UK.

The campaign was established in 1984 by Volunteering England, which merged with National Council of Volunteer Organisations (NCVO) in 2013. NCVO now leads this UK-wide campaign.

Pupils at Swaminarayan School do volunteer work every year as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Service element in Hospices, Charity shops, Temples, Communities in addition to raising more than £50,000 over the years for charities at home and abroad.

And writing about volunteering, parents, pupils and friends are reminded that the Summer Fair 2018 is not far away during the weekend of Saturday, 30th June and 1st July 2018. You can sign up to volunteer at the school office!

Yours sincerely,

Nilesh Manani