

The Swaminarayan

EDUCATION IS THAT WHICH LIBERATES

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

Next week we celebrate the birthday of our founder, **Param Pujya Pramukh Swami Maharaj**. I have included a few words about Bapa, as we all lovingly called him, on the back.

Prize Day: 1st December 2017

Parents, guardians and pupils should note the following points:

1. Pupils should report to the Yogi Hall at 6.15 pm where they will be greeted by their tutors who will then guide them to the Mandir Haveli.
2. Parents can gather in the foyer of the Mandir, where they will be guided to the front part of the hall.
3. Everyone should be seated by 6.45 pm.
4. Santos will arrive promptly at 7pm for their blessings.

The dress code is formal Indian. The evening will be followed by a delicious meal at the end. Parents and guardians should also note that as it is usual for any school prize day, we will have a half day. Pupils should be picked up at 12.55 pm. Pupils remaining behind in the afternoon should inform Mr Hopkins so that we can make arrangements for food.

Mock Examinations for the 6th Form

Students in the 6th Form should note that their Mock Examinations will begin immediately after the Christmas Holidays on Monday, 8th January 2018. These are important examinations and a good measure of what is to be expected for the final A Level examinations in the summer.

Senior 1 Parents'-Teachers Consultation meeting

All the pupils in Senior 1 have now completed their first set of internal examinations. It is therefore a good chance for the parents to meet their subject teachers after Christmas and receive their feedback. We have scheduled this first meeting for Thursday, 18th January 2018. The meeting will be held in the Yogi Hall between 4.30 to 7 pm.

Reports for the End of Term

Parents should note that we will place these reports on Schoolbase Parents' Portal on the very last day of the term, Friday 15th December 2017. All the parents should have a username and password which they need to use to access their child's report. If you do not have them, please contact the office and speak to Mrs Chaudhuri.

Part 3: The Rights of Citizens in a Democracy

We continue our series on Democracy by examining the rights of citizens in a democracy.

In a democracy, every citizen has certain basic rights that the state cannot take away from them. These rights are guaranteed under international law.

You have the right to have your own beliefs, and to say and write what you think.

No one can tell you what you must think, believe, and say or not say.

There is freedom of religion. Everyone is free to choose their own religion and to worship and practice their religion as they see fit.

Every individual has the right to enjoy their own culture, along with other members of their group, even if their group is a minority.

There is freedom and pluralism in the mass media.

You can choose between different sources of news and opinion to read in the newspapers, to hear on the radio, and to watch on television.

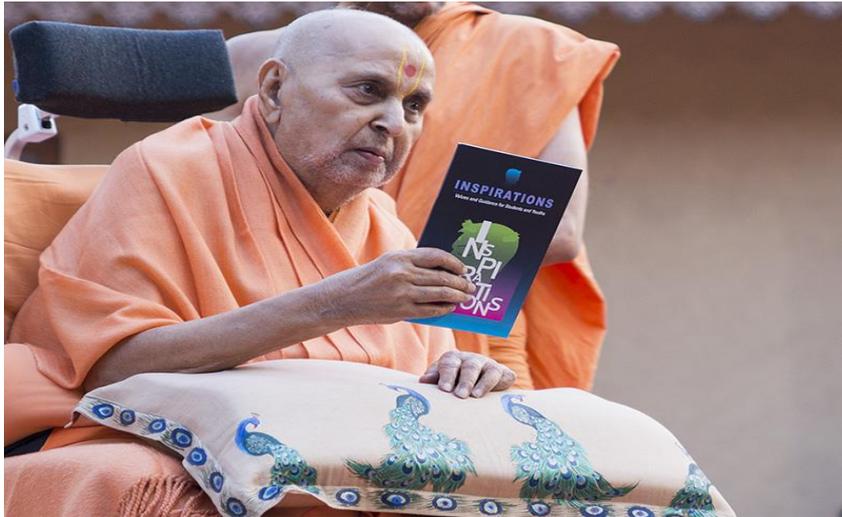
You have the right to associate with other people, and to form and join organizations of your own choice, including trade unions.

You are free to move about the country, and if you wish, to leave the country.

You have the right to assemble freely, and to protest government actions.

However, everyone has an obligation to exercise these rights peacefully, with respect for the law and for the rights of others.

Happy Birthday to Param Pujya Pramukh Swami Maharaj



Pramukh Swami Maharaj was a peaceful, humble, simple and spiritual personality; a rare soul who had always lived for others and remained in constant rapport with God. He was an advocate of world peace, and revered as one of the most influential spiritual leaders of the world.

Pramukh Swami Maharaj lived by his maxim, 'In the joy of others lies our own'

and had dedicated his life to selfless service for the spiritual and social uplift of society. Over the last seven decades, Pramukh Swami Maharaj had inspired countless aspirants, and for the betterment of humankind, he had visited over 17,000 villages, towns and cities. In addition to the renowned Swaminarayan Akshardham complexes, he had gifted the world with over 1,100 mandirs. Yet, to everyone in The Swaminarayan School, he was our founder.

The Swaminarayan School was founded by Param Pujya Pramukh Swami Maharaj, who was a disciple of infinite faith in his Guru, Yogiji Maharaj. There is no greater service to a Guru than to carry out his every command, he often said in assemblies. It is a quality we observe in all the best students of the Swaminarayan School who are always respectful of the knowledge they receive from their teachers, so it is hardly surprising that many excel and go on to carve out paths few from other schools dare to imagine. They are bold, they are fearless and brave like our gurus. Yet for Pramukh Swami, that wasn't enough, passionate as he was about turning these children towards God.

Pramukh Swami would have been proud of all them for putting God ahead of them. He was the inspiration behind starting every lesson in our thirty lessons week with a prayer. Visitors are instantly spellbound by the calm ambience within the school. With God and Guru in front, The Swaminarayan School has no limit to what it can achieve.

Yours sincerely,

Nilesh Manani