

15th December, 2017.

NEWSLETTER, 1st TERM 2017/2018 SESSION

Dear Parents,

As we approach the celebration of the birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the reason for this season, we wish you all the blessing, peace and joy that come with this season and a happy 2018.

1ST TERM 2017/2018 IN REVIEW

The new session started on a promising note, on 18th September, 2017 with 143 new intakes in JSS1. This marked an improvement on our enrolment in JSS1 enabling us to start this set with six arms. In the other classes: JSS2- SS3, we also recorded the enrolment of a large number of students. Thus the breakdown is as follows: JSS1 - 6 arms, JSS2 - 4arms, JSS3 - 3arms, SS1 - 4arms, SS2 - 2 arms and SS3 2arms. Therefore the school population as at today is 460.

RESUMPTION: The school started this session 2017/2018 with three (3) mantras which are Respect, Neatness and Discipline. Nevertheless silence remained an emphatic code in the school. In addition, the School Management this session intensified the morning prep in order to inculcate the habit of reading in the students.

FEAST OF ST. FINBARR: The feast of our Patron Saint, St. Finbarr was celebrated on the 25th of September 2017. On the day the Holy Mass was celebrated in place of the regular school assembly to honour the Patron.

TEACHERS' DAY: Teachers were celebrated on the World Teachers Day, the 5th of October, 2017. The students took charge of the morning assembly in order to appreciate the teachers. The Catholic Archdiocese of Lagos also celebrated all her teachers. To pep-up the day, the Archdiocese held a seminar/get together where teachers were appreciated with gift items.

INTER-HOUSE SPORTS COMPETITION: We thank God for a successful inter-house sport competition which took place on the 18th of November, 2017. Most of the boys participated in different sporting activities and in all, St. Benedict's House emerged the overall winner. Medals, trophies and gift items were given to both students, parents, staff and Old Boys.

INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT: A Language/Media laboratory has been installed in the school to aid both the teaching and learning of Oral English and also to facilitate teaching in other subjects.

E-LIBRARY: An e-library where one can surf the internet has also been installed in the school library. It is made available to both Staff and Students to enhance reading culture.

NIIT: A world renowned ICT company, NIIT, is partnering with the school in order to equip the students with basic ICT skills needed in the 21st century hi-tech world. This will enable the student to navigate effectively in the current ICT world (programming).

ACADEMICS: We have already informed you during the last PTA meeting that we recorded very impressive result in the external examinations – WASSCE, NECO Senior and Junior and the Lagos State Junior School Certificate Examinations. In the just concluded term, the school continued to strive to achieve optimum performance. To this end, efforts were intensified to ensure that the students achieve the minimum pass mark of 60% in every subject. Consequently, we have continued to give remedial lessons to students identified to have performed below standard. Extra classes are on going for all JSS3 and SS3 students. The SS3 students will stay behind for intensive lessons while other students proceed on the Christmas holidays. A time table has been released to that effect.

We implore all parents, to continue to do their bit at home by ensuring students have their textbooks, write their notes up to date, do their assignments and submit as at when due.

EXTERNAL COMPETITIONS: The school participated in the English Olympiad and came 1st Position in both the Junior and Senior Category.

REMEDIAL: As part of our effort to ensure that our students continue to do well academically, the remedial lesson programmes which began last session still stands and is compulsory for every student. Some students were also attached as mentees to mentors (teachers) who monitored their performance weekly.

APPEARANCE/DRESS CODE: In line with the College's vision to establish a dignified community for learning, students are expected to be properly dressed at all times in the approved dress codes stated by the School Management. Students must ensure that they are tidy at all times. Only the approved footwear and uniforms for classes, chapel, boarding house and laboratories should be worn as the case may be.

Sandals/Canvas: Parents are advised to get the appropriate footwear for their wards, brown Cortina sandals for students in junior secondary school while students in senior secondary should put on white canvas. It is now compulsory for all students in the Senior Secondary School to wear the school blazers.

Uniforms: Worn out uniforms, sandals, canvas, cardigans or belts should be replaced before resumption and all students should have their hair cut low before resumption. Any student who defaults would be sent home.

DISCIPLINE: The school will continue to place premium on students discipline for proper upbringing to meet the challenges of our society. As a result of this, 3 (three) boys were expelled from the school for exhibiting improper conduct while some were suspended and made to do community service that lasted between one and two weeks.

Parents are advised to encourage their children/wards to make conscious effort to be law-abiding. Both parents and students should make effort to read the parents and student's handbook which contains the school rules and regulations and the accompanying punishments.

RECRUITMENT OF MORE TEACHING STAFF: For effectiveness in teaching and learning, the school employed about seven (7) new teachers in order to enhance the necessary productivity desired in the field of education.

HOLIDAY ASSIGNMENT: Project work/assignments have been given out to students, the deadline for submission will be on Monday 8th January, 2018.

SCIENCE STUDENTS: It is compulsory for all science students to purchase the laboratory overall from the school, it costs five thousand naira only (N5,000).

PAYMENT OF FEES: Payment of fees as at when due continues to be a problem. Up to the week of examination, a large sum of debts remained outstanding. Even some parents who came to sign undertaking during the examination week failed to redeem their pledges. We urge all parents to try and pay the fees within the first two weeks of the term. We know that things are hard but with prayers and wise spending, parents will be able to meet their obligations.

1st TERM RESULTS: The 1st term examination results will be released online on the school portal on 21st December, 2017 for parents to check and print out their children/ward's result.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PROGRAMMES FOR 2ND TERM 2017/2018 SESSION

1. The school resumes on Monday 8th January, 2018. Boarders return on Saturday 6th January, 2018.
2. 1st half of the term: 8th January - 14th February, 2018.
3. 1st C.A. Test - February 5th - 9th 2018.
4. 2nd Mock Senior Certificate Examinations comes up between 12th February and 28th February, 2018.
5. Open Day and PTA Meeting - Friday 16th February, 2018

6. Mid-Term break – Thursday 22nd - Friday 23rd February, 2018.
7. Second half of the term – 26th February- 23rd March 2018
8. 2nd C.A. Test – 26th February – 2nd March 2018.
9. 2nd Mock JSCE for JSS3 and 2nd Term Examinations for JSS1 & 2, SS1 & 2 – between 12th March and 20th March, 2018.
10. Vacation – Friday March 23rd 2018.
11. Resumption for 3rd Term – Monday 16th April, 2018. Boarders return on Saturday 14th April, 2018.
Visiting Day for Boarders – Saturday 25th February, 2018.

CONCLUSION: We sincerely thank parents who contributed positively in making this term an eventful one. We wish all our parents, students and staff journey mercies. Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year in advance!

Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Babalola
Administrator