

23rd July, 2021.

NEWSLETTER, 3RD TERM, 2020/2021 ACADEMIC SESSION.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are grateful and thankful to God for His mercies which has kept us alive to see the end of another academic session. We are also thankful to Him for providing us with everything we needed to fulfill our obligations to our children in this trying time of the Coronavirus Pandemic. We pray that He will continue to guide, protect and provide for us all. Amen.

1. REVIEW OF 2020/2021 ACADEMIC SESSION

The session commenced on Monday 21st September, 2020 with a stress on adhering to the guidelines put in place to curb the deadly Coronavirus. We also placed premium on greeting and zero tolerance for examination malpractice. The three mantras remain Discipline, Neatness and Respect.

2. ACTIVITIES

i) FEAST DAY: The Feast of our Patron, Saint Finbarr, was celebrated on Friday 25th September, 2020.

ii) WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

All teachers were celebrated and appreciated by the school and the students to mark the World Teachers' Day on Monday, 5th October, 2020.

iii) PHASED MORNING/AFTERNOON CLASS

For the students to observe proper physical distancing due to the spike in the Corona Virus Pandemic, the Management decided to phase the classes into two; the morning physical classes for the day students and the afternoon physical classes for the boarders throughout the first term.

iv) VALEDICTORY CEREMONY

The Valedictory Service/Speech and Prize-Giving Day was held in honour of the graduating set of 2020 on Saturday, 28th November, 2020 in a low-key ceremony due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

v) ALTERNATE DAYS

On Monday, 4th January, 2021 the second term started with the virtual classes before the resumption of the physical classes. We engaged in the use of the alternate days method between the day and boarding students (3/3).

vi) FOUNDERS' DAY

The school celebrated her Founder's Day on 31st January, 2021.

vii) RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENTS

During the session, precisely on the 6th of June, 2021 which was the Feast of Corpus Christi (The Body of Christ), eleven (11) of our students received the Sacrament of Baptism while fifty-one (51) students received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

Also, on the 8th of July, 2021, sixty-six (66) of our students received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We appreciate the parents/guardians of these Catechumens for their presence and support on the said dates.

viii) INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT

a) New Hostel: We sincerely appreciate our beloved parents, Old Boys, friends of the College for their support; both in cash and kind. However, we are still soliciting your support in the completion of the hostel project. God in His infinite mercy will continue to bless you abundantly as you lend a helping hand towards actualization of this project.

b) Computer Laboratories: Another computer laboratory was set up to bring the computer laboratories to three (3). One of the computer laboratories was also refurbished by the 1980 Set of the St. Finbarr's College Old Boys Association. The laboratory is now wearing a new and 21st Century compliant look with a large touch screen interactive board installed.

The school purchased more computer systems and has about 170 computer systems connected to the internet for our CBT examinations. However, more laboratories and more computer systems will be set up in the nearest future. We therefore appeal for more donations to hit our target of 200 systems.

3. ONLINE CLASS AND EDUCATIONAL TABLETS

The College took the proactive step of keeping students engaged during the lockdown virtual online classes (Google classroom) and this has become a part of the school as we shall continue to engage our students in the virtual classes. The school has since improved on this by the introduction of the customized Academic Tablet Device (ATD) for all students. The educational tablets have been issued to all students whose parents have made full payment. We encourage parents to get one for their child/ward in this age of blended learning.

4. ROBOTICS/ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The students have been introduced to Robotics/Artificial Intelligence which is one of the unique selling points of the school. The NIIT is partnering with the school in this aspect and some of our students have been engaging themselves in virtual robotics, website designing and training on artificial intelligence.

5. DISCIPLINE

The school will continue to place premium on students' discipline for proper upbringing to meet the challenges of our present-day society. As a result, twenty-six (26) students were

expelled this session, some were suspended while others were made to do community service in the school premises.

6. EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE/STEALING

The school has zero tolerance for examination malpractice and any student caught indulging in such act will be expelled from the school. Also, henceforth any student who steals and is found guilty after thorough investigation, may be expelled from the school.

Parents are advised to encourage their children/wards to make effort to be law-abiding by adhering to the school rules and regulations. (Refer to the school handbook for students and parents).

7. APPEARANCE/DRESS CODE

It has been observed that most of our senior boys now wear jumping/undersized trousers and faded blazers. Please note that it is compulsory for all senior students to purchase new and complete uniform before resuming for the new session (2021/2022 session).

All students of the College are to replace worn-out uniforms, blazers, sandals, canvas and belt before resumption. Any student who defaults will be sent back home upon resumption.

8. RECRUITMENT OF MORE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC STAFF

For effectiveness in teaching, learning and other activities, the school employed eleven (11) new teachers and five (5) new house parents in order to enhance productivity in the field of education and the school in general.

9. CRITERIA FOR THE PROMOTION OF STUDENTS TO THE NEXT CLASS

- a. Academic performance in core/departmental subjects.
- b. Performance in Mathematics and English Language
- c. Character/behaviour
- d. Attitude to studies

10. JUNIOR SCHOOL: 60% in Mathematics and English Studies and any other five (5) subjects.

11. SENIOR SCHOOL:

- * **Sciences:** 60% in Mathematics, English Language, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Further Mathematics and one additional subject.
- * **Arts:** 60% in Mathematics, English Language, Literature-in-English, Christian Religious Studies, Government, Biology and one additional subject.
- * **Commercial:** 60% in Mathematics, English Language, Financial Accounting, Commerce, Economics, Biology and one additional subject.
- * **Technical:** 60% in Mathematics, English Language, Technical Drawing, Physics, Chemistry, Further Mathematics, Biology and one additional subject

12. JAMB 2021

Ninety-seven percent (97%) of our SS3 students scored very high marks in the 2021 JAMB examination with the highest score being 317.

13. SUMMER SCHOOL 2021

The College will run the summer school from Monday, 2nd August to Friday, 3rd September 2021. Students from other schools are also invited. However, it is compulsory for all SS2 students promoted to SS3. All newly admitted students should also avail themselves the opportunity to register for the summer school in order to get acquainted with the academic system of our school. The fee for the summer school is twenty thousand (N20,000) naira only.

Plans are underway to incorporate online summer school separately for those who would not be able to attend the physical classes.

14. FOREIGN EXAMINATIONS (IGCSE & SAT)

Some teachers have already completed the training course for certification as instructors for the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)

The registration and approval process to make the college a center for the International General Certificate of School Education (IGCSE) is in progress.

The SAT training/lectures for students will begin on Monday, 2nd August, 2021. The form and training fee is sixty thousand (N60,000) naira only. Examination registration fee is sixty-five thousand (N65,000) naira only. This is subject to change.

15. MISSING ITEMS

Parents and guardians should encourage their sons/wards to be more careful with their property. Students should also be held accountable for their belongings as most of the boys are fond of misplacing their property.

SCHOOL ACADEMIC CALENDER FOR 1ST TERM 2021/2022

| ACTIVITY | DATE |
|--|---|
| 1. BOARDERS RESUMPTION | SATURDAY, 18 TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 |
| 2. SCHOOL RESUMPTION | MONDAY, 20 TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 |
| 3. FEAST OF ST. FINBARR | 24 TH /25 TH SEPTEMBER, 2021 |
| 4. INDEPENDENCE DAY | FRIDAY 1 ST OCTOBER, 2021 |
| 5. VALEDICTORY SERVICE | SATURDAY 2 ND OCTOBER, 2021 |
| 6. SS1 BOARDERS RESUMPTION | SUNDAY 3 RD OCTOBER, 2021 |
| 7. SS1 CLASSES BEGINS | MONDAY 4 TH OCTOBER, 2021 |
| 8. WORLD TEACHERS' DAY | TUESDAY OCTOBER 5 TH , 2021 |
| 9. 1 ST C.A. TEST | MON. 18 TH - FRIDAY 22 ND OCTOBER, 2021 |
| 10. SPEECH & PRIZE GIVING DAY | NOVEMBER 2021 |
| 11. OPEN DAY/PTA MEETING | FRIDAY 29 TH OCTOBER, 2021 |
| 12. MID-TERM BREAK | 1 st - 5 th NOVEMBER, 2021 |
| 13. SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS/ASSIGNMENTS | 9 TH NOVEMBER, 2021 |
| 14. 2 ND C.A. TEST | MONDAY 15 TH - FRIDAY 19 TH NOV. 2021 |
| 15. JOINT MOCK EXAMINATION | MONDAY 6 th - THURSDAY 16 th DECEMBER, 2021 |
| 16. VISITING DAY (BOARDERS) | SUNDAY 28 TH NOVEMBER, 2021 |
| 17. 1 ST TERM EXAMINATION | MONDAY 6 TH - THURS 16 TH DECEMBER, 2021 |
| 18. END OF TERM ACTIVITIES | DECEMBER, 2021 |
| 19. CHRISTMAS CAROL | DECEMBER, 2021 |

- 20. VACATION
- 21. BOARDERS RESUMPTION
- 22. SCHOOL RESUMPTION

17TH DECEMBER, 2021.
SATURADAY 8th JANUARY 2022.
MONDAY 10TH JANUARY 2022.

16. PAYMENT OF FEES

We urge all our parents to endeavour to and pay up all fees before resumption. The management will appreciate prompt payment of school fees.

In the context of the continuing economic challenges in the country and its impact on the finances on private institutions in the country, and particularly on St. Finbarr's College, a moderate increment in the fees for the 2020/2021 Session has become imperative.

Indeed, the increase has been informed by our determination not to lose our pride as an excellent institution and a foremost one among private colleges in the country.

The increment in the school fees of our highly esteemed students is not one we desire but as a result of the present economic situation of our country. However, let this be known to all Finbarrians that we hear your cries and would by the grace of God, make sure the basic needs of all Finbarrians are met individually.

17. CONCLUSION

Parents are advised to monitor their children/wards at home, know where they go to, the people they associate with and ensure their safety by complying with the Covid '19 guidelines put in place by the government. Also, note that during this period, you are to adequately monitor your children/wards in order to checkmate negative influences both on screen, social media and physical contacts/association.

Ensure that they are gainfully engaged with their studies during this period, bearing in mind that they have a lot to cover in the new session.

We sincerely thank all parents who have contributed positively in making this term a success.

We wish you all our parents, staff and students journey mercies.

God bless you all.

Rev. Fr. Emmanuel Babalola
Administrator