



Term 3

Monday April 27th — Thursday July 2nd 2020

Examination success

I wish to share some excellent news, which I received on Friday of last week. Each year the Cambridge Examination Board recognise students who achieved outstanding IGCSE results; that is students who have produced papers which are best in the country or best in the world. This year 3 of students gained such recognition.

- ⇒ Jean Lamoliatte.: French
- ⇒ Uchechukwu William Uche-Ike: Chemistry
- ⇒ Adanna Omolewa Isabel Okoli: Economics

Well done the to these pupils, families and teachers.

Lost in Lagos

I was also delighted to receive an e-copy of the most recent “**Lost in Lagos**” publication. One of our pupils Omala Opubor was the copy editor for this edition with her siblings Radha, and Om contributing to the magazine.

The latest copy can be read here: https://issuu.com/lostinlagosmagazine/docs/lil_june_2020-2

Second Half -Term timetable

Individual tutor group timetables can be viewed here:

https://bisnigeriaorg-my.sharepoint.com/:f:/g/personal/principal_bisnigeria_org/Epp7ttk799JKpH-25v-MA6IBsUjc_IxqTloRlvdKkelGmQ?e=I9SwSO

This morning, Years 7-9 had an extended tutor time in which the updated timetable for the second half term was shared. I have attached copies of these timetables for your information. While the timetable is predominantly unchanged a few key alterations have been made. Additional English, Science and Mathematics lessons have been added to Years 7-8 and additional English, Maths and ICT to Year 9. Music will not now be provided as an online lesson although I hope that pupils will continue to play and listen to music as a creative outlet at home. The lessons, which are teacher-led in TEAMS, are indicated in pink.

For additional clarity, I have integrated the self-study lessons into the same timetable. These are indicated in green. During these periods pupils are expected to go to their subject teams, collect the work from the assignments section and complete it during the indicated period. These lessons are placed throughout the timetable to allow pupils to consolidate their understanding and/or prepare for the next teacher-led lessons. Specific tasks within these lessons will be submitted for teacher marking. Submission is also via the assignments portal.

Years 10, 12 (13) and taster AS lessons continue to follow the previously published timetables.

A video guide to these changes has been shared with the pupils in Years 7-9

<https://vimeo.com/425788664/7a327639c4>

Academic Year 2020/21 Term dates

Please follow the link for Terms Dates for the Academic Year 2020/21.

https://bisnigeriaorg-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/personal/principal_bisnigeria_org/Efv7_p9k321Nuwih-lHoIagBOHmlPIqfYVP2k3m3L60dgg?e=G5PD2o

The new Academic Year is scheduled to start on 6th September this is, of course, conditional on guidance to be issued by State and Federal Government on the reopening of schools in the light of the ongoing pandemic.

Pupils have worked extremely well online however we cannot assume that the pace and depth of understanding have been unaffected by the loss of face-to-face teaching. Therefore, I wish to bring to your attention several likely changes to the usual structure of Term 1, which will support our pupils' learning post lockdown.

- The Michaelmas Term has been extended by one week to allow additional teaching to take place.
- Although a final decision will be made after further consultation with parents it is likely we will operate an extended school day with period 6 lessons (2.35-3.35) replacing co-curricular time on some but not all days of the week during the first term. However, a balance between study and co-curricular provision must be reached. One of the greatest impacts of online teaching has been the loss of opportunities for pupils to cooperate and socialise together and our co-curricular programme will play an important role in reintroducing these experiences
- For our examination classes, period 6 lessons will continue in the Lent Term.
- Pupils in Years 8-11 and 13 will be asked to prepare for formal tests. These will take place as soon as we start the new academic year. The tests will focus on all learning from the Trinity Term and the results will play an important part in helping measure the success of the pupils' online learning and guide the focus of the additional lessons during the Michaelmas Term.

Applications to our VIth Form

I am aware that several families of Year 11 pupils are revisiting their decision to school internationally for Sixth Form. Among the concerns that have been voiced to me are:

- Health concerns of boarding in countries with substantial infection rates
- Restrictions on flights to/from Nigeria
- Potential periods of self-isolation being enforced
- Questions over whether more general restrictions on travel will affect the speed at which Tier 4 visas may be gained.
- Fluctuations in the naira exchange rate.

There are no easy answers to these issues and further clarity can only come with time. However, I would encourage families who are intending for their children to study abroad to discuss any concerns that you have with the school in question at the earliest opportunity.

Applications to our own Sixth Form are now open. If you would like additional information or wish to discuss entry into our Sixth Form then please do get in touch with me via principal@bisnigeria.org.

Our current Sixth Form totals 25 pupils who are studying a range of science, business and humanities subjects at AS and A2. Classes are no larger than 5. Although our Sixth Form is relatively new, we have had considerable success. Last year all our students gained access to their universities of choice and this year our Year 13 have offers from universities such as Manchester, Warwick, London and Toronto.