



Term 1

Monday September 7th — Thursday December 17th 2020

We were delighted to welcome our Years 7-9 back to full-time education this week. While this is a significant step towards a return to normalcy the need to ensure the ongoing safety of pupils and staff means we are still some way off seeing school operate as we did before the March lockdown. I must thank all parents for their support; particularly in ensuring that the children arrive with their PPE and for contending with the busier onsite traffic that we see at the start and end of each day.

Approximately 280 students are in school each day and managing their safe arrival and departure is a key priority. With this in mind could I ask that parents and drivers do not exit their vehicles at any point while on the school site unless they are coming to our main reception.

Lunchtimes are taking a little longer than the one hour set aside so Year 7 are finishing period 4 approximately 15 minutes early. While the flow of children through the dining room will speed up as they become more familiar with the system this arrangement will likely remain in place for the remainder of the term.

Year 10/11 PE

Currently, Years 10 and 11 do not attend their scheduled PE lessons. Until recently this has been due to COVID restrictions but has continued to allow additional self-study to help offset the impact of the lockdown period.

However, exercise is an important part of the pupils' weekly routine and can play a role in helping these older students manage the stresses associated with examinations. From Term 2 pupils will be able to opt for one PE lesson per 2 weeks.

CATS

Claim your FREE cat. We have had an influx of kitten in school grounds during the lockdown. If anyone would like a free cat please let me know and we will endeavour to catch one. Throughout December we have a special offer on cats: get one cat-free and receive a free cat.

PTA Interim Elections

My thanks to all parents who stood for the vacant PTA positions. On behalf of the PTA, I can now confirm the following:

Vice-Chair: Captain Jonathan Joshua

Assistant General Secretary: Mrs Sabrina Mahboobani

The PTA exco would be very interested to hear from any parent who may be able to assist the treasure.

Examinations:

Years 7-10 examinations start next week as per the previously shared timetable. **Any family who has decided for their children not to attend these school examinations should inform their child's Form Tutors of this intent no later than Thursday of this week.** Examination papers will be sent ONLY to families who have done so. Papers will be sent directly to the parental email so that they may be administered appropriately.

Meetings with the Principal

I am available to meet with any parent **each day of the week**. An appointment system is run to avoid parents needlessly waiting if my diary is full as well as to ensure that sufficient time is set aside to discuss issues fully and without interruption. Please contact the Principal's PA on **0908 701 4833/0814 813 9481** or email: principalspa@bisnigeria.org to book an appointment.

I do appreciate that it may be more convenient, particularly for shorter meetings, to meet having dropped off your child in the morning. With this in mind 8.15—9.15 each day has been set aside for this very purpose. **No appointment is necessary.**

The relationship between school and parent is crucial to both the happiness and academic development of each child in our care. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any issue that you would wish to discuss.

Upcoming Calendar Events

Monday 30 Nov— Friday 4 Dec:
Friday 11 December:

Exams for Years 7—10
End of the Year Musical Activity