



# Secondary Spotlight

25th January 2019  
Term 2, Edition 3

## Secondary Notices

Tuesday 29th January  
Wednesday 30th January  
Thursday 31st January  
Friday 1st February

Tanzania Trip Parent Meeting (Juilliard Music Room) (6pm-7pm)  
Key Stage 1 – 5 Open Day (9am-11:30am)  
First Deposit due for the International Duke of Edinburgh Award Adventurous Journey  
Secondary Chinese New Year Assembly  
Withdrawal deadline for end of Term 2

## TTT Deadlines: w/c 28th January

Year 7 – Visual Arts and DT, and Geography, Year 8 – Music and Computing, and History, Year 9 – French and Mandarin

## Student Wellbeing

Having a group of friends is important to all teenagers. It helps them learn how to get along with their peers and become more independent as they progress towards adulthood. Teenagers feel a lot of pressure to fit in with their peers, which can be challenging for parents and children alike. It is important to discuss the benefits of the peer group with your child, including a sense of belonging, feeling valued, development of self-confidence, sense of security, a way to meet new people, practising engaging with the opposite sex and learning to negotiate. One of the major challenges involves how the group may influence decisions your child makes (e.g. smoking, drinking, partying, staying out late, homework, time on the computer or phone etc.). It is important to keep the lines of communication open with your son/daughter, listen to their point of view but also ask them to listen to yours. Get to know your child's friends, make them feel welcome in your home. Finally, strongly emphasise the point you are here to support them (no matter what happens) and not to judge them. A close, connected family will build trust and have a positive impact on your child's well-being.

## Sports Report

This week the U14 boys football team beat Dulwich 7-2. The U14 girls football team beat SJII 4-3 but lost to CIS. The U16 boys basketball team lost a very high scoring game to Dulwich 83-60. The U14 Girls Netball team have triumphed and won Gold in their league this week. Well done!

## Our subject in the Spotlight this week is.... Science

**Year 7:** Year 7 have been tackling the mind-boggling concepts of what all "matter" in the Universe is made from! From Democritus to the LHC, we have been reviewing our understanding of "matter" or more specifically "atoms" and just how amazing they are. Did you know that atoms are mostly 'empty space'? So, that would mean that you, everyone you know and all the items with mass or volume around you, all made of atoms, are mostly 'empty space' as well! Mind-boggling.

**Year 8:** Our Year 8s have been learning about a true scientific genius, the scientist Dmitri Mendeleev. Despite looking like a cross between Professor Snape and Santa Claus, Mendeleev was the mastermind behind the iconic and handy Periodic Table. How useful to have a comprehensive guide to all of the known elements, arranged in order of size, but also with similar families of atoms in identifiable groups! Should you come across a Year 8 scientist on your travels be sure to quiz them about the differences between Group 1 and Group 7 elements.

**Year 9:** The Year 9 iGCSE scientists have been checking that they are alive. More specifically they have been checking if they are respiring, as all living cells and organisms must do to acquire energy. We have yet to discover any walking dead amongst the Year 9 cohort, as all students could turn Limewater cloudy and produce condensation on a mirror. However, do you know what the products of the respiration reactions are? Moreover, how do they relate to Limewater and mirrors? If you haven't a clue, ask a Year 9, because they sure do.

**Year 10:** Need for speed? If so, you will want to join the Year 10 iGCSE scientists as they zoom through the Forces and Motion Physics topic. Whether you enjoy life in the fast lane, or with all your forces balanced on the sofa, you can never escape some form of motion. Even sitting on our tods, we move at nearly 1000 miles per hour as the Earth rotates on its axis. As we now enter a new space age, our brave Year 10s are taking on the challenge to develop the mathematical skills and understanding, aiming to play a part in the next generation to reach for the stars.

**Year 11:** Mocks. The weary but battled hardened Year 11 iGCSE and Entry Level students return from an intense period of assessment. This week we have been identifying and developing effective strategies to maximise the marks achieved on specific assessment questions and improve overall examination technique. With only a few months left until the final iGCSE assessments, these skills can improve your performance in the finals and any other future assessments you may face. We wish our brave Year 11 scientists well and invite them all to join us in the upcoming afterschool revision sessions!

**Update from IB Coordinator:** Year 13 completed their Pamoja mocks this week as their preparation for the May 2019 exams session gathers pace. Several of our year 12 students ran in the 24 hour race to raise money to help stop human trafficking and slavery, so there have been a few achy legs this week!

