



Unity High School

مدرسة الازناد العليا

Founded 1902

P.O. Box 85
Khartoum
Sudan

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السودان

Date:3/10/2016

September Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Thank you for the many positive comments I have received following the publication of my first newsletter.

May I express my appreciation to parents for respecting the new arrangements for the start of school.

The school is generally working well and the Senior Leadership Team continues to make regular tours to see how everyone is performing.

A few days ago the Director and myself, along with a member of the School Council, attended a meeting at the British Council. We had a good discussion considering ways in which their teacher development services could support our own in house staff training sessions. Further news on how this partnership link is going in my next newsletter.

There have already been a number of talks delivered to staff so far this term. Our new Head of Maths - Miss Salma and Mr Mutaz spoke about modern methods of maths lesson delivery. Dr Tawasol has spoken about some general health issues. Miss Pauline has given a week of talks/workshops to do with classroom management and I presented case studies describing some of the pastoral challenges I have dealt with during my career.

The Music Department is expanding. A new room is being prepared in the Principal's House and a variety of new musical resources have just been bought.

During forthcoming school breaks an additional classroom will be provided within F Block. Also, further internet links are being installed in the Primary general office to facilitate administration.

I am delighted to report that charity fundraising events have started in the senior part of the school. The students paid to dress in themed clothes during the last week in September to raise funds for local charities.

The Prefects/House Captains in Primary are also planning a similar effort. It is good to see that we have so many excellent Prefects and leaders in our school.

Our new canteen continues to receive very positive comments from pupils, students, parents and teachers.

Miss Nada and her team in the Early Years Centre have had a general review of how they are using the rooms in the EYC. As a result a number of pleasing changes have been made to further enhance facilities for the little ones.

The PE department has just received new equipment. Our year 5/ 6 boys basketball team participated in the tournament that was held in KICS School against Nile Valley School, KAS and KICS. I am happy to say that we won the tournament. Year 10/11 girls basketball team have also won a game against KICS.

After school activities are about to begin again with staff offering a range of clubs. I hope many pupils/students will enjoy participating in them.

During October I will carry out formal lesson assessments of all new staff. I will examine lesson planning, focus on the standard of delivery/rapport between teacher and pupils/students. I will also carry out a review of the School Improvement Plan and report my conclusions at School Council Meeting. I look forward to advising parents of developments in future newsletters.

The school is still interviewing possible candidates for posts as we seek to develop our teaching resources. Unfortunately one of our new expatriate teachers (Ms Laila) arrived and decided to leave after 4 days in Sudan. A further candidate we offered a post to was unable to come due to family matters. We also have a number of applications awaiting to be processed by the authorities. We will soon publish a full list of our teaching staff on our website.

I am continuing to enjoy my Year 11 Geography teaching - there are now 14 in my option - and I am busy teaching literacy/numeracy in 3Y.

Here are some important dates for parents and pupils/students:

- Interim Reports for Primary/Secondary issued - Thursday 20th October.
- Short break - From Saturday 22nd October - Return to school - Tuesday 25th October
- Primary Parents - Teacher Meetings - 4 - 8pm Saturday 5th November
- Secondary Parents - Teacher Meetings 7 - 9pm Saturday 12th November
- Secondary School Exams Thursday 1st December - 14th December.
- Primary School Exams - Monday 12th - Wednesday 14th December.
- Christmas Concert/Event - Thursday 15th December 6pm start.
- School Holiday - 16th December - Return to school Monday 9th January 2017

With best wishes

John Jennings

ADMINISTRATION

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مدرسة الإتحاد