



Mid Bloom Newsletter

13th February, 2016

KEY FACTS TO NOTE

- **British Council International School Award**
- **Extension Classes 2016**
- **Inter-House Athletics Competition**
- **Career talk with Reading University country representative**
- **Brazil 2015 Highlights**

NEWSLETTER TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Dear Sir/Madam,

We thank God for a wonderful start in this Year of New Beginnings. His Mercy and Favour are ushering us as one family into a season of recovery, restoration and jubilee in Jesus Name.

We are sending you the progress report of your child/ward. Students' scores were based on overall assessment from class exercises, tests, assignments and projects done thus far. You are enjoined to review their work and discuss their progress with them during the mid-term break which begins today 13th February, 2016.

RESUMPTION

The mid-term break lasts for one week. Students are expected back in school on Saturday, 20th February, 2016. We appeal to parents/guardians for their usual cooperation in ensuring the punctual return of their wards as this term is particularly short.

MID-TERM ASSIGNMENTS

Students have been given midterm assignments in ALL subjects they offer. Please ensure that your children/wards apply themselves diligently to these assignments as the scores are an integral part of the second half term Continuous Assessment rating. All textbooks and exercise books should be returned to school for effective preparation towards the end of term examinations.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD (ISA)

The British Council International School Award (ISA) is a benchmarking scheme that accredits schools as having an outstanding level of support for nurturing global citizenship in young people and richly embedding international learning in their curriculum. ISA was introduced in the year 2000 and over 3000 schools from 15 countries have joined this accreditation since then. Schools across the world are grappling with the challenge of providing relevant education in face of rapid technological advancements that are changing the way we live and work. A change towards process and value oriented experiential learning is holistic, rigorous, evidence - based and fosters teambuilding, innovation, and project management.

Just introduced to Nigeria by the British Council, Lifeforte signed up and has been successful in gaining the International School Award with an excellent score of 48 out of a possible 49 and will therefore be accredited for three years from 2016 – 2019. Below is the feedback from the assessment panel: *'an excellent dossier, systematically arranged, clear evidence of students involvement, original and well thought activities especially **The News, 'Think Care, Think Orphans' and Young Entrepreneurs Giving Back***'. We give our God all the praise!!

The Award Ceremony will take place on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at the Eko Hotel & Suites, Victoria Island. Lagos.

ENTRANCE AND TRANSFER EXAMINATIONS 2015

The Lifeforte High School entrance and transfer examinations towards the 2016/2017 academic session was held on the 30th of January, 2016 at 6 centres across the country – Abuja, Lagos, Port Harcourt, Warri, Ibadan and Enugu. Our gratitude goes to God and to all our highly esteemed parents for the goodwill, good name and favour enjoyed by the school all over the country and beyond Nigeria! We graciously welcome all our new parents to partner with us as a family to raise this next generation as a glorious seed chosen and destined for greatness.

EXTENSION PROGRAMME

The extension programme for students in Grades 9, 11, 12 and A levels begins on 29th March, 2016. The aim of these classes is to provide an avenue for students to improve their grasp of course content, familiarise themselves with different types of exam questions and master the techniques of providing expected answers to questions. We encourage parents of students in the classes involved to work with us to ensure that the students get the most out of this time. The programme attracts a fee of N100, 000.00 to be paid with the Bloom term fees.

MENTORING DEPARTMENT

Regular meetings between mentors and protégés began at the commencement of term. Supervision in school has ensured that notes are completed during spare time while efforts in the hostel are aimed at improving effectiveness of study at prep. In addition, an effective plan is in place to minimise students misplacing or losing their notes. This has helped to put more emphasis on note studying rather than note copying. Our weekend lessons also kicked off for grades 7 and 8 in Maths, English, Biology, ICT, Literature and Design. As our students go home for a well deserved break, we have equipped them with time-tables to assist their completion of assignments between 9:00 am – 12:00 (noon) daily. We hope they will do some extra (at least one hour) reading anytime of their choice during the rest of the day.

ANNUAL SCHOOL TOUR

Last year's tour destination was unique Brazil, a country endowed with rich culture and amazing diversity and our experience was enlightening, refreshing and fun- filled. The group led by Mummy CEO arrived in Rio de Janeiro to the 5 star hospitality of JW Marriott – where United States President Barack Obama reportedly stayed during his visit to Brazil. Rio de Janeiro is home to the Sugar Loaf Mountain, Christo Redentor and the world famous Maracana Stadium.

Brazilians eat lots of meat and we were treated to our own share at the upscale Carretao restaurant known for its beef, chicken and lamb grill served straight to the table on the skewer and sliced on to the plate with such amazing skill and dexterity. This meat fest is accompanied by an 'all you can eat' buffet. Acrobatics, samba, mime, cultural display, fancy dazzling costume, live band, incredible artistry and talent – all this sum up the sensational Brazilian show known as 'Gingam' which the group was treated to on our first full night in Rio. Our visit to the Sugar Loaf mountain, Maracana stadium and the Cristo Redentor is best described as breathtaking, a tribute to the wonder of creation and man's architectural mastery and skill. God's greatness revealed and made accessible for man's

appreciation by means of modern engineering – the cable car and train ascending to dizzying heights up the mountain.

Global citizenship is becoming a central part of learning. The students had an opportunity to interact with students in Brazil during our visit to 'Escola Sesc' a school funded by the chamber of commerce in Rio majoring primarily in the creative arts. We visited the school on the advent of their graduation and Lifeforte students guided by the CEO rendered the National Anthem and a Hausa chorus led by the school Bursar, Mrs Bola Aboyade to the appreciation of the students and parents present.

We left Rio for the cosmopolitan city of Sao Paulo and arrived at the Grand Hyatt located in the heart of the business district in Sao. Situated along a scenic tree lined avenue the Grand Hyatt was really grand. Our arrival there was greeted with tall glasses of tropical fruit juice including the Brazilian national favourite – guarana.

A highlight of our stay in Sao Paulo was our day at the 'Wet n Wild' water park. That was really fun. Brazilians have a warm, hospitable culture and we learnt that language is only a barrier if you let it be. A smile, gesticulations, nods and google translator went a long way in aiding communication, English speaker to Portuguese speaker and vice versa. We say a big Obrigado and Obrigada (thank you in masculine and feminine gender) to all our parents for their unflinching and loyal support.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS COMPETITION 2015/2016.

Another memorable Inter-House Athletics competition took place on 30th January, 2016. Our four houses (Ruth, Paul, Sarah, Daniel) locked horns in a very intense but friendly competition to vie for several honours at stake. Field events and long distance races had been concluded prior to the day and were an indicator that stakes would be high in the main events of the day; march-past, individual sprint, relay races and cheerleading events. Sarah house repeated last year's feat by clinching first place in the march past event. The audience was then treated to a very colourful and coordinated calisthenics display exhibiting the flexibility, coordination and athleticism of our girls. The races followed, putting the entire audience at the edge of their seats repeatedly amidst suspense and loud cheers. The big question in everyone's mind was answered as Ruth house took home the overall trophy just as they did last year. Added to this sweet triumph, the best male senior and junior athletes, **Ephraim Ogbeifun** and **Princewill Ganagana**, as well as the female junior best athlete, **Toriste Gagar**, were from Ruth house. The senior best female athlete, **Krystal Eimunjeze** made her house, (Daniel) proud. Parents were not left out as there was a very engaging novelty match between parents and staff which our Parents gallantly won 1-0. Mothers proved their mettle in the 50 metre dash; three separate races had to be conducted as several mothers kicked off their heels and rolled up their trousers to show our children how it's done. We congratulate our winning mums. Sixteen invited schools participated in the invitational relay event at the end of which Vale college came first in the male event and Rosebud College first in the female category. Special thanks to our beloved parents, guests and all invited schools who turned up in numbers to add colour and excitement to make the day truly memorable and special. Our God indeed did it again!

CAREER TALK and VISIT FROM READING UNIVERSITY

The country representative of Reading University, UK was hosted in school and gave a presentation on career options based on subject choices or preferences. The talk was very enlightening and the students demonstrated the value of the talk during the engaging interactive session that followed. At the end of it, our students were better motivated and more determined to excel at their relevant subjects in order to pursue their chosen careers.

LIFEFORTE MOVIES

“LET IT SHINE”

To close the half-term, the students were entertained with an exciting movie titled ‘Let it Shine’. This movie was about a young man named ‘Cyrus’ who came from a Christian home but chose to pursue a rap career. He faced utter rejection from his father who did not believe in secular music. Cyrus was however later touched by God, turned around and returned to the church to join the choir and enrich the lives of God’s people.

Capping the half-term activities was a celebration of God’s Love (Agape). Introduced by a PowerPoint exhortation on ‘Agape love’ anchored by two prefects, the celebration flowed into a riveting drama teaching humility and kindness as keys to access divine favour. The programme ended with, of course, a sumptuous love feast!

MORNING ASSEMBLY

In Lifeforte, we encourage our students to participate in innovative out-of-class learning activities that take place during morning assembly. These activities are a forum to foster learning new things in a fun way and make an indelible positive impact on them. Activities such as Spelling bee, Science quiz, Etiquette lessons and ‘The News’ continued this half-term during which global issues such as democracy, cultural diversity, health concerns and orphans were discussed.

INTERNATIONAL DAY

This programme is designed to create an awareness of the world in each child using a project based approach. Each grade is tasked with interpreting and portraying the national character of a particular country beginning with its people, attire, language, beliefs, customs, food, products and spanning other notable pieces of information. Traditionally held in the latter part of the second term, the event is competition-based to encourage students to give their very best in planning and presentation. Last year, Grade 11 won convincingly as they put up a very lovely display of North Korea. We urge parents to support their children as much as possible to improve their chances of winning. May the best grade win!

PAYMENT OR OUTSTANDING BILLS

We encourage parents to pay all outstanding bills on or before resumption from the half-term (20th February, 2016)

GENERAL

Parents/Guardians of students in grades 9,11 and 12 should please ensure that their children/wards return to school with their grades 7, 8 or grades 10 and 11 notes respectively in addition to their current notebooks). These are essential for good success in the Mock and Final examinations.

Finally, we implore parents to monitor what their children/wards read or watch on television or internet. Please ensure the continuous tend of daily prayer and reading of the word of God.

May God bless you all.

Love from us all – Lifeforte family

Mrs Grace Aina



PRINCIPAL