



مدرسة القديسة مريم الكاثوليكية الثانوية - دبي
St. Mary's Catholic High School - Dubai
محيصنة (فرع) Muhaisnah Branch

Muhaisnah 4
P.O. Box: 52232, Dubai, UAE

"Cradle of Quality Integral Education"

Web site: www.stmarysmuhaisnah.com

Newsletter: Number 7

February 1st

Dear Parents,

It's hard to believe that the school has had its doors open now for 5 months. Thank you for all your support over the months.

We are looking forward to our first sports days SMM. You are very welcome to attend and support your children.

Sports Day

The dates for the sports days for all the various age groups have now been set:

FS2: 17th February, 7:30 -12:00. This will be held at the school

FS1: 18th February, 7.30 – 12:00. This will be held at the school

Yr 1 and 2: 18th February, 8:30 -11:00. This will be held at the school.

Yr 3 – 6: 24th February: 8:00 – 12:00. This will be held at the Al Thiqah Club for Handicapped, Sharjah. The Google Map link is as follows:

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Al+Thiqah+Club+for+Handicapped/@25.3141313,55.4348438,14z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x3e5f5f26fdbbba9:0x3af3ccd11c470260?hl=en-US>

Swimming Pool

As you are probably aware the swimming pool has been filled with water and suitably cleaned and chlorinated. However after such a prolonged time of inactivity we discovered one of the two heaters was not working. The working heater can only heat the water to 22 degrees Celsius. This is too cold for swimming. The ideal temperature is 28 degrees and we hope to have the second heater repaired in the next few days. Once we are satisfied with the pool, we will commence swimming activities. We will have a full time female and male swimming coach (Both have FINA qualifications) and a lifeguard throughout the day. We will start a swimming activity after school in addition to swimming activities during PE.

We estimate the pool will be ready in about two weeks.

Term 3 Fees

Term 3 fees are now due. Please visit the accounts dept. to pay during the school office hours. Deadline for this payment is February 17th.

Fire Drill

The school held its first fire drill recently. The boys and girls were very well behaved and moved quickly to the allotted meeting areas. All staff and students were out of the building in four minutes. We will hold another one in a few weeks. From then on we will hold a fire drill every term.

Results of Parents' Surveys

Thank you to all those parents who filled in the questionnaire. We have analysed the responses. On the whole parents are satisfied with the school. There were two areas where there were some concerns raised by parents:

- *The School gives me good information about the progress of my child*
- *The teachers explain how I can help my child at home with school work*

We will ensure the management addresses these issues and put forward an action plan in the school improvement plan to ensure the school improves in these areas.

Book fair

From February 23rd to February 25th Magrudy's will hold a book fair at the school. This coincides with World Book Day on March 3rd. This is an event held all round the world to raise the awareness of the importance of reading. At the book fair your child can buy books at discount prices. Please try to make time to attend the book fair with your child.

Open for Yr 7 and recruitment

The KHDA recently visited the school to check the readiness of SMM to expand into Year 7 in September 2016. We are pleased to announce that we have received approval and we are now accepting applications for Year 7.

As we are now accepting more students we will need more staff for all subjects for September. We are currently interviewing prospective teachers and hope to finish our recruitment by the end of April.

The vacancies are currently on the school website. If you know of anyone who may be interested and suitably qualified please let them know we are recruiting.

Reservation Fees

For children wishing to return to SMM next September, please remember to come to the school to pay a reservation fee for your child's place. However you can only reserve a place for next year as long as you have paid all the school fees. It is essential you do so. If you do not, you cannot be guaranteed of a place next year.

Thank you for all positive comments from parents who I meet throughout the day. We receive many queries each day about various topics. We pride ourselves on responding to any query as quickly as possible. We very much value your comments, so please keep them coming. You can email or visit the school. You can also fill in the suggestion slip in the front foyer of the school.

Have a good term.

Regards

Derrick Duggan BSc. Hons, MA
Principal