

Dear Parents and Friends,

I trust that this newsletter finds you well.

As we celebrate World Book Day, people often wonder why reading is important; after all, there seems so many other things to do with one's time. However, reading is important for a variety of reasons and here are some fundamental ones:

1. ***Open Yourself to New Things:*** Through reading, you expose yourself to new things, new information, new ways to solve a problem, and new ways to achieve one thing. Who knows – you might find your new hobbies within it. Who knows – you might actually explore one thing you really like and it may end up becoming your career and success in the future. Exploration begins from reading and understanding.
2. ***Self-Improvement:*** Reading does help you form a better you, doesn't it? Through reading, you begin understand the world more. Through reading, you begin to have a greater understanding on a topic that interest you; for example: how to build self-confidence, how to make plan better before taking action, how to memorise things better and more. These self-improvements start from reading; through reading, you create a structured path towards a better understanding and better actions to take in the future.
3. ***Gain Experience from Other People:*** When you are reading, you are actually gaining the knowledge and experience of someone. It can hasten your success towards a goal, as you don't need to repeat the same mistake while focusing on the right path in achieving one thing. It's like a mountain of gems for you to discover in books, which contain people's successes, failures and advice. Life is too short for you to keep repeating the mistakes that had been done by other people in the past, in order for you to reach the results that someone might already reached. For example, there are more than several thousand billionaires and millions of millionaires today. To emulate their success, the first thing is to learn and get to know their past, what they did in the past that makes them where they are today. Reading is a great path to get to know them, and learn from these great people.

4. ***Tools of Communicating:*** Communication is the most important tool which can be transmitted through reading. As you communicate through reading, you understand more, and thus you can communicate better with people. As with a person that knows nothing, he hasn't had anything to share, and he probably doesn't even understand what people are sharing. Through reading, you build a more solid foundation for communication. It is one of the most important tools we use every day to connect with each other. Whereas if you don't read, you can't even connect with the world and what people are talking about out there. Reading connects you with the world.

5. ***Connecting Your Brain:*** When reading, you're in full silence because reading connects directly to your brain. In silence, you seek for more; in silence, your brain is clear and focuses. Thus, you learn and grow, and therefore you feel and see from the point of view of the author about everything in life. Hence you shape a better self.

6. ***Boost Imagination and Creativity:*** Reading exposes you to a world of imagination, showing you nothing is impossible in this world. By reading, you are exploring a different angle to see a thing you've known, on how different action leads to different results. Books are beyond imagination. It's like a huge spider web, where you keep linking to more and more to things you knew, and things you just learn, structuring new solutions and answers.

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter and I look forward seeing you ***this Saturday*** for the Academic Review and Parents Visiting day – the ***Academic Review*** will be from ***10h00 – 13h00*** and the ***Visiting session*** will commence from ***13h00 - 15h00***. Please see the ***attachment, 'How to make the most of Parent-Teachers Conferences'***.

Yours sincerely

Abraham P. Swart
Principal

NEWSPAPERS in EDUCATION (NIE)

This is a laudable programme introduced to help build readership and reading skills amongst the students. It can be used in many subjects and grade levels. It can be used in Language, Arts, Reading, Social Studies, Maths and the Sciences. This programme helps teachers to plan and learn to develop their own activities using the newspaper to teach in the classroom. Having the newspaper in the classroom has an added advantage of giving teachers the opportunity to use the most up-to-date 'textbook' in the market.

Students who are exposed to this programme often goes home and request that parents or guardians and other adults have newspapers in the home environment. Some of those homes eventually become regular subscribers once they develop the habit of reading. Studies have shown that students who regularly read a newspaper score significantly higher on standardised tests than students who do not.



In addition, NIE contributes in improving local education. The body helps to further educate the community about health and safety issues of their children. Younger readers learn more about interesting people and activities in the community. The advert columns may provide information of value, serve as entertainment guides and provide style, price and useful information on items they are interested in buying.



The pictures capture the students in the Social Studies class applying what they have learnt in NIE - they were asked to cut out pictures of 10 things in the newspaper that they would like to buy, determine the total cost of the items and decide how many of the items they could really afford.

On so many levels, the NIE project is of high educational value and provides readers information on socio-cultural issues.

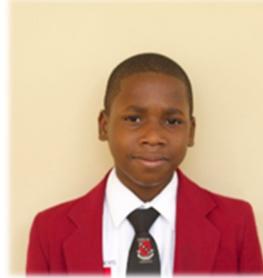
Mr G.N Mordi (Acting HoD Humanities)

ASPIRATIONS

'Within our dreams and aspirations, we find our opportunities'.



Name: Purity Onoyemeakpo
Class: Year 7
Aspiration: Research Scientist – (to find cure for Lassa Fever, Zika virus, Ebola and HIV).



Name: Jordan Marchie
Class: Year 7
Aspiration: Medical Doctor



Name: Oghenefejiro Mejire
Class: Year 8
Aspiration: Architect



Name: Victory Emovavwerhe
Class: Year 8
Aspiration: Architect



Name: Sara Mbachu
Class: Year 9
Aspiration: A Medical Doctor



Name: Otuobi Nwagwu
Class: Year 9
Aspiration: CEO of a Hi-Tech Industry



Name: Augustine Divine
Class: Year 10
Aspiration: An Electrical Engineer



Name: Uchenna Ifechukwu
Class: Year 10
Aspiration: Software Engineer

REMINDERS

PARENTS SENDING PACKAGES to JHC

Parents who need to send any packages to students should please send ***directly to the school***. House Parents will not be able to collect students' package at Delta Line station in Agbor because they have teaching commitments and additional responsibilities in the school. We therefore, implore parents to have the packages delivered to the College Main gate, or send to JHC directly and subsequently inform the House Parents.

JHC ADMINISTRATION OFFICE HOURS

Please note that our administration office hours are from 8.00 am until 5.00 pm on weekdays. It is a problem when staff receive calls as early as 5 am in the morning or 9 pm at night ***requesting documentation***. A short email will suffice and the request will be attended to within 24 hours. Furthermore, JHC's ***confidentiality and privacy policies*** prohibit the sharing of student information with any person who is not the parent or guardian. This includes requests for documentation on behalf of another parent or parents. JHC will only act on such with the expressed written permission of the students' parents or guardians concerned.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Here follows the travel information for the **Air Peace bookings** (www.flyairpeace.com):

	Benin-Abuja-Benin	Benin-Lagos-Benin
Departure	Friday, 31 st March 2017 by 11:25 am	Friday, 31 st March 2017 by 1:55 pm
Return	Wednesday, 19 th April 2017 12:40 pm	Wednesday, 19 th April 2017 10:10 am

As a practice, all tickets should be forwarded to lekkyes.dadwang@jameshopecollege.edu.ng and sunday.oloyede@jameshopecollege.edu.ng at least ***two weeks before the departure date***.

FUTURE EVENTS

Date	Event
04 th March 2017	Academic Review and Parents Visiting Day
11 th March 2017	Staff CPD
18 th March 2017	JHC Sports Day
31 st March 2017	End of Term 2
19 th April 2017	Students return for the start of Term 3

For more information or clarification on any matter, please feel free to contact me at 0708 396 4440 or abraham.swart@jameshopecollege.edu.ng