

3 March 2026

Dear Parents and Friends,

I trust that all is well and that you are healthy and blessed. We cannot help but notice how fortunate we are, especially in a world in turmoil and amid forces that are tearing at the fabric of society.

Our heartfelt thanks to the parents and guardians who attended the Academic Review on Friday, 13 February 2026. The turnout was good, and I enjoyed seeing you and chatting.

With modernisation, certain areas of life have become easier and more manageable. However, from many angles, the job of parenting has become increasingly complex. Never before have we lived in such a technologically centric society, bringing about stark cultural shifts in norms and practices surrounding work, play, socialising, and, of course, child rearing. Many parents are navigating the treacherous waters of parenting amid global challenges, an economic downturn, and various political struggles. While, in certain ways, none of this is "new," some old ways and imparted wisdom are no longer applicable given the drastic changes over the last decade. And I share this reminder again: the College is here **to support parents and students** through these challenges and difficulties.

In conclusion, Garrison Keillor wrote, *"Nothing you do for children is ever wasted. They seem not to notice us, hovering, averting our eyes, and they seldom offer thanks, but what we do for them is never wasted"*. And J. W. von Goethe said, *"There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots, the other, wings."*

Let's be kind to each other, until we meet again.

Yours truly,
Abraham. P. Swart
Principal

JHC Swimmers Win a bevy of medals at the Dolphin Swimming League Long Course Finale

Students of James Hope College delivered an impressive performance at the Dolphin Swimming League Season 7 Long Course finale, winning a gold medal and four bronze medals at the competition held on 22 February 2026 at Rowe Park.

The event, which brought together young swimmers from leading schools and clubs, marked the season's final meet. Representing James Hope College, the swimmers demonstrated marked improvement in technique, composure, and teamwork across a full day of racing.

The standout performer was Oguegbu Chizitelu, who won Gold in the 100m Backstroke, confirming her place among the competition's top athletes. She also secured Bronze in the 50m Butterfly and contributed to the school's relay medal finishes.

Other swimmers played key roles in the team's success. Lucky-Deekor Barivure earned a Bronze medal in the 100m Breaststroke and was part of the mixed relay teams that finished on the podium. Ezumba Kenenna, Lucky-Deekor Duunebari, and Onanoro Williams Mueller also delivered strong relay performances, helping the school secure additional Bronze medals.

Coaches praised the swimmers not only for their results but also for their discipline and attitude throughout the competition. Team members were seen supporting one another between races, reflecting a strong sense of unity. *"This performance reflects the steady progress our swimmers have made through consistent training and commitment," a member of the coaching team said. "It is encouraging to see their hard work producing results."*

The competition concludes the current Dolphin League season on a positive note for James Hope College, with the results highlighting the growing strength of its swimming programme.

School officials say the focus will now shift to building on this momentum as preparations begin for future competitions.





The achievement adds to the College's expanding record in inter-school sports and reinforces its commitment to developing students in both academic and extracurricular pursuits.

CONTRABAND Matters

Last Wednesday, we did a **CC(Contraband Check)** and found several students with items listed as contraband – scissors, UHU liquid glue, perfume (eau de cologne, aerosol type, etc.), snacks, bubble gum, jewelry, etc. Please see the attached image. We were disappointed as we often reminded parents to check their children’s school and sports bags before they leave home.



Some items were returned to students, but parents can collect the more dangerous items from Dr. Gbadeyan, VP Pastoral & Boarding. Further to this, the SLT reviewed and decided to expand the list of items students can bring to college in view of changing demands. Also, lip balm (not lip gloss) and Vaseline can be used as hand lotion. Please see below.

<p>Deodorant</p>  <p>Spray deodorants are not allowed. It must be either a push-up or roll-on type and is permitted only for sports activities. Only plastic containers are allowed; glass bottles are not permitted.</p> 	<p>Vaseline Lip Therapy or Colourless Lip Balm (Maximum 20g)</p> <p>Must not be applied in the classroom. Apply only from home, hostel, or during lunch and break times privately.</p>
<p>Sunscreen (20g)</p> <p>Sunscreen may be applied only at home or in the hostel.</p> <p>Students who are swimmers are permitted to bring sunscreen, and it can only be applied at the sports arena before swimming.</p> 	<p>INTERDENTAL BRUSH</p> <p>Only for Students with Braces</p> 

Please remind your children **NOT** to **SHARE** these personal items as it increases the risk of spreading bacteria, viruses, and infections. By adhering to this advice, everyone stays healthy and safe.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

WORLD BOOK DAY

On **Thursday, 5 March**, JHC will use part of the day to celebrate World Book Day. We will have a range of activities to celebrate reading. A guest speaker will encourage students to continue with this important activity. After all, reading is a lifelong skill that improves memory, builds a robust vocabulary and a foundation of knowledge, and adds richness and depth to life.

EASTER EXTENSION CLASSES for YEAR 9 & YEAR 12 STUDENTS

As part of our preparations for the upcoming Checkpoint and WASSCE examinations, the school will be organising a two-week extension programme for students in Years 9 and 12 during the Second Term holiday. These extension classes will take place from **Monday, 13th April to Friday, 24th April 2026**. Consequently, all affected boarding students are expected to return to school on **Sunday, 12th April 2026**.

Please contact the Vice-Principal (Academic Affairs), Dr. Clement Ikuyinminu at clement.ikuyinminu@jameshopecollege.edu.ng for further clarification. We appreciate your cooperation and support in ensuring a smooth and productive academic experience for our students.

LEADERSHIP & GOAL MAPPING WORKSHOPS for SENIOR STUDENTS

This workshop, the **leadership** and **goal mapping training** for Year 10, 11 & 12 students, has now been concluded. The students have found this motivating and helpful in developing essential skills such as communication, decision-making, and teamwork. We now look forward to the application of these skills, with the aim of enhancing their academic performance and interpersonal skills.

JHC WORLD SCHOOL GAMES (WSG)

James Hope College is gearing up for the **World School Games** in Doha, Qatar, next year, in January 2027. Sixteen students - 8 boys and 8 girls - will compete in **swimming, athletics, and football**. It is a big chance for them to test their skills, enjoy the experience, and maybe even surprise themselves along the way. Information has been sent to the respective parents, and your response would be appreciated if not already submitted.

FUTURE EVENTS

Date	Event
5 January 2026	Staff INSET Day & Boarders return after 4:00 pm
6 January 2026	Whole school resumes with an Assembly
17 January 2026	Second JHC OPEN DAY (only prospective parents)
22 January 2026	Full School Photographs
24 January 2026	Formal School Lunch with Special Guest
31 January 2026	JHC Entrance Examinations 2026/27 admission
7 February 2026	JHC Entrance Examinations 2026/27 admission
13 February 2026	Years 7 & 8 Academic Review and Last day of Mid-term
22 February 2026	Boarders return to JHC from 2:00 pm onwards
23 February 2026	Whole school resumes
14 March 2026	Parents Visiting Day for Boarders
16 - 20 March	Term two examinations
28 March 2026	Educational Fair
1 April 2026	Last day of school for term two (pick-up at 3:00 pm)
26 April 2026	Boarders return to JHC from 2:00 pm onwards
27 April 2026	Whole school resumes

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