

# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

19 November 2025

Dear Parents and Friends,

In the olden times, seafarers or sailors used to greet each other with 'ahoy', but in modern times it is just 'smooth sailing' – a bid for a good journey. The Year 12s have completed their IGCSE examinations, and our students and budding scholars are currently taking their term one examinations. We wish them smooth sailing.

This past week, we focused on **anti-bullying** with presentations and a short drama by students – both were well done. To maintain focus on the messages shared, a 'wall of kindness' was created where students could post notes of acts of kindness or compliments to others. The College was filled with excitement as students visited the wall at every opportunity to read and post notes, before school started, during morning break, lunch break, and even after school. We counted three hundred and twelve (312) notes of kindness, which is heartening and a testimony to you, their parents, for raising them right.

"Anyone can hold the helm when the sea is calm.", is what Publilius Syrus wrote, and parenting in this modern day and age can be challenging at times as the 'seas' are not always calm. We understand that fully. When you enrolled your child at JHC, we promised a partnership between the College and parents to ensure that your child could be the best that they could be, and that is still our resolve, in word and action. Let's continue to build on this positivity.

As we started with a nautical term, so shall I conclude with one. 'Fair Winds and Following Seas' is a traditional maritime blessing, wishing the traveller favourable winds to carry them and smooth waters to push them along safely on their journey. And with this, I bless and wish you eternal blessings in all your endeavours.

Be safe until we meet again.

Yours truly, **Abraham. P. Swart** Principal

# International Award for Young People, Nigeria (IAYPN) or DoE News

### **Year 12 Silver Level Practice & Adventurous Journey**

Dates: 12th – 17th November 2025

#### **Overview**

Our Year 12 students spent six action-packed days on their Silver Level Practice and Adventurous Journey. They tackled challenges, learned practical skills, and grew in confidence, teamwork, and leadership. It was a week full of energy, discovery, and plenty of memorable moments.

## **On-Campus Kick-off**

The adventure started right at school. Students took part in:

- Sports and fitness sessions to get moving
- Collecting plants for a mini herbarium
- Planning and orientation exercises
- Tent setup, route-card prep, and even Christmas tree mounting
- Basic first aid, fire-lighting, and swimming practice

### **Practice Journey – Lekki Conservation Centre**

Out in the field, students explored the environment and practiced moving safely through nature. Back at camp, learning got hands-on: they tried soap-making and cooked meals together, including shawarma and fried rice.

### **Qualifying Journey – La Campagne Tropicana**

The trek continued at La Campagne Tropicana with swimming, football, and team-building challenges. One of the highlights? A beachside music session led by our Head Boy, Granville Denzel, lifted everyone's spirits. The week wrapped up with ORB updates, reflections, report writing, early routines, tent packing, and a thorough cleanup of the campsite.

### **Student Growth**

Over the week, the students showed real progress:

- Better teamwork and collaboration
- Clearer communication
- Increased confidence under pressure
- Respectful, focused, and genuinely enthusiastic throughout

### **Acknowledgements**

A huge thank-you goes to everyone who made this possible: management, Award Leaders, boarding staff, PE & Sports, medical and logistics teams, security, facilities, KOTS Catering, and the IAYPN Assessors. Your support ensured a smooth, successful programme.

#### **Conclusion**

The 2025 Silver Level Journey was a big success. Students met the programme goals, grew personally, and created memories that will last a lifetime. Next year, we are looking forward to the first-ever group of students achieving the Gold Level award.

# 'From our Home to your Home' — News from the Boarding Houses

It is always a pleasure seeing students flourish, this includes witnessing their academic and personal growth, from mastering a difficult concept to gaining confidence and resilience, whether in the Boarding Houses or in the classrooms. When we decide to become teachers, it is viewed as a calling. For us, we find fulfillment in helping students discover their potential, fostering a love of learning, and seeing them succeed in the future. It's a gratifying experience that goes beyond academics, involving the emotional and social development of everyone, as evidenced profoundly in our Boarding Houses. This week, the Boarders who excelled are:

### Best Room of Week 8 (Girls' Boarding House): A Model of Teamwork and Excellence

We are pleased to recognise the following students of **Room 1** for maintaining the **Best Room** in the Girls' Residence this week:



**From left to right:** Edikan Obio, Oluwasubomi Sarumi, Oluchi Ani, Dayna Akinmoladun & Shivon Uhiara (absent)

These students have demonstrated outstanding teamwork, discipline, and attention to detail in keeping their room clean, organised, and pleasant. Their dedication to maintaining high standards of hygiene and order reflects a strong sense of unity and responsibility. We applied their efforts and commitment to excellence, which continue to set an inspiring example for other boarders.

Congratulations to the girls of Room 1 for their exceptional performance this week. Keep up the great work!

**Student of Week, Week 9 (Girls Boarding House)**— Celebrating Excellence in Knowledge, Truth, and Character.

It is with great pride that we recognise **Kendameru Andy-Wabali** of Year 7 as our Boarding Student of the Week.

Kendameru has distinguished herself through her exceptional conduct, punctuality, sense of responsibility, and respect for others within the boarding community. She consistently upholds high standards of cleanliness, cooperation, and kindness, fostering a positive, supportive atmosphere among her peers. Her dedication to doing what is right, coupled with her exemplary attitude, reflects the true spirit of Knowledge, Truth, and Character.

We warmly congratulate Kendameru for this well-deserved recognition and commend her for setting an inspiring example for other boarders to follow.



Kendameru Andy-Wabali

## Best Room of Week 8 (Boys' Boarding House) - ROOM 2

A shout-out to the occupants of Room 2. This room is led by the calm, dependable, and focused Sports Prefect, Qayyum Ajide. Under his quiet yet firm leadership, the room continues to set the pace, often emerging first in orderliness and teamwork, just as he has done in every room he has led. His style of leadership speaks volumes: service over show, example over authority.

Kudos to his reliable assistant, Brian Essien, and the committed room members, Chidubem Azike, Kosisochukwu Akah, Soayomidimeji Abimbola-Isreal, and Chidubem Ugwu, for their collective efforts in maintaining excellence. Well done, Room 2, you have truly earned it!



**From left to right:** Brian Essien, Kosisochukwu Akah, Soayomidimeji Abimbola-Isreal, Chidubem Ugwu, Chidubem Azike & Qayyum Ajide.

### Student of the Week, Week 9- Paul Olisa

This week, we proudly celebrate *Paul Olisa*, a student who continues to distinguish himself in both character and learning. Calm, responsible, and ever willing to volunteer, Paul consistently approaches every task with dedication and excellence. His readiness to lend a helping hand, especially during the ongoing Year 12 examinations, reflects authentic leadership and service. Well done, Paul, you embody the very best of our school's values.



Paul Olisa

# What happens on weekends at the JHC Boarding Houses?

There is a saying that 'All work and no play makes Jack/Jill a dull boy/girl'. At our Boarding Houses, we allow some recreation or play to keep our boarders sharp. So here are some of the activities that happen on some weekends:



Evening <u>basketball</u> with fierce competition in the inter-house groups.



Getting ready for the relay races!

And this coming weekend, *shopping* in Lekki.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS**

#### JHC SPORT TEAM EVENTS on 29 November 2025

Please be aware that on Saturday, 29 November 2025, the JHC teams in football, basketball, swimming, and robotics will compete against other schools. We wish them all the best and to bring home the accolades and trophies!

### JHC at the World School Games (WSG) in Doha 2027

James Hope College is pleased to announce its participation in the **World School Games (WSG)** in **Doha, Qatar, in January 2027**. This global event brings together schools from around the world to compete in football, athletics, swimming, and basketball.

A selected team of JHC students will represent the College, and preparations for the tournament are already underway. A detailed **Parent Information Sheet** will soon be shared with families of the participating students, outlining key details and next steps.

We look forward to this exciting opportunity for our students to compete, learn, and grow on the world stage.

### **NOTIFICATION: 2025/2026 INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL TRIP**

Following the successful and hitch-free international school trip to the United Kingdom last session, we are pleased to inform you that the Board has approved an international school trip to **Canada** for the **2025/2026 academic session**. The trip is scheduled for the **Summer**.

This exciting opportunity is open to students in Years 7 to 11.

Further information, including full details of the itinerary, costs, and registration procedures, will be communicated to parents by the Office of the Vice-Principal (Academic Affairs) in due course. Thank you for your continued support.

### JHC PARENTS TEACHERS FORUM Virtual Meeting, Saturday, 22 November 2025

This is a reminder that our next virtual Parent–Teacher Forum meeting comes up on **Saturday, 22 November 2025, at 10.00 am**. The forum will be held via <u>Microsoft Teams</u>, and details will be sent to your registered email addresses on Wednesday and Friday with an attachment explaining how to log in.

We ask **our parents to log in with their full name(s)**, as unauthorised or unidentified people will not be admitted to the forum.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, 22 November 2025.

### JHC SCHOOL MENU

The JHC meals menu is posted on the Educare portal for parents to peruse and to provide input. Please share your feedback with Mrs. Funmi Gbadeyan at <a href="mailto:funmilola.gbadeyan@jameshopecollege.edu.ng">funmilola.gbadeyan@jameshopecollege.edu.ng</a>

# **FUTURE EVENTS**

Date	Event
<del>24 August – 5 September 2025</del>	New Year 12's return for IGCSE preparation
<del>5 September 2025</del>	Staff INSET Day
<del>7 September 2025</del>	Year 7 Students in residence/boarding arrive
<del>8 September 2025</del>	Year 7 Registration & Orientation
8 September 2025	Other Boarders returning by 4:00 pm
9 September 2025	Whole school resumes
<del>1 October 2025</del>	Independence Day (Public holiday)
<del>October – November 2025</del>	IGCSE examinations
<del>3 October 2025</del>	World Teachers' Day (Observance)
<del>4 October 2025</del>	Visiting Day for Boarders
6-10 October 2025	Continuous Assessment week
<del>11 October 2025</del>	JHC STEAM FAIR
<del>17 October 2025</del>	Years 9-12 Academic Review & Last day of half-term
<del>26 October 2025</del>	Boarders return
<del>27 October 2025</del>	Whole school resumes
<del>1 November 2025</del>	Coffee Morning
<del>15 November 2025</del>	First JHC OPEN DAY (only prospective parents)
17-21 November 2025	Term 1 Examinations
22 November 2025	Parents-Teachers meeting
4 December 2025	Xmas event & Last day of term
5 January 2026	Staff INSET Day & Boarders return after 4:00 pm
6 January 2026	Whole school resumes
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

For more information or clarification on any matter, please feel free to contact me at 0708 396 4440 or <a href="mailto:abraham.swart@jameshopecollege.edu.ng">abraham.swart@jameshopecollege.edu.ng</a>