

3 December 2025

Dear Parents and Friends,

The end of this term is upon us. And it has been a busy and productive period, with JHC expanding its activities in the Boarding House and in enrichment/co-curricular spheres. Thus, the holiday is a ***well-deserved reward*** for the 'blood, sweat and tears' expended by staff and students.

This last week has been another week of ***frenetic activity*** and would even put the ever-busy bees to shame! I have encapsulated most of these events in this newsletter. However, it would still fail to truly capture the spirit, vibes, nuances, labour, and toil of all involved.

Thank you for attending the last ***PTF meeting***. The minutes are available on the Educare portal. The comments and suggestions are always appreciated. I hope one day we can progress to the point where immediate challenges are shared with the College rather than waiting for the PTF to raise them. Suppose I am made aware of a potential issue or concern. In that case, I will never allow grass to grow under my feet, or in Yoruba, "*Mi ò jẹ́ kí koríko gùn lámọ̀ ẹ̀sẹ̀ mí*" - I act quickly. Everyone, including students, knows that, and this is how I lead and manage our College.

All parents are ***invited to the Christmas concert*** on Thursday, 4 December 2025. We will start at ***8:30 am*** sharp and ***conclude by 11:00 am*** - after this, students will depart for the holidays. Please collect your children accordingly, and those on the JHC bus system will be dropped off appropriately.

In conclusion, Bible scholar Stephen Grellet wrote, ***'I shall pass through this world but once. Any good, therefore, that I can do or any kindness I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer it or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.'*** In the time of our abundance, let us also remember those less fortunate than us and put our intentions and words into action.

Happy holidays, be safe, and let us be kind to each other, until we meet again.

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

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

On Saturday, 22 November, a group of boarders undertook the much-awaited shopping trip to Ebeano and Blenco supermarkets in Lekki. This was organised to give the students a chance to practice independence, make decisions, and take responsibility for their purchases. The exercise also aimed to build their confidence in managing money, choosing essential items, and behaving responsibly outside school. A total of 40 students participated, accompanied by staff for guidance and support.

Before departure, the students were briefed in the dining hall on the trip's objectives. Instructions were given on what items could or could not be bought, and the students complied fully. Each student had a personal shopping list to guide their purchases.

This cheerful group remained content, calm, and cooperative throughout the journey. Inside the mall and supermarkets, the students behaved responsibly and politely. The cashier and other staff praised their conduct, noting their discipline and courtesy. They were true ambassadors of JHC and brought praise and honour to themselves and their families.

During payment, some students faced a minor challenge: the cashier could not provide exact change because smaller denominations were unavailable. To resolve this, some students collected small items, such as sweets, to make up the balance. At the same time, in a few cases, the remaining amount could not be exchanged for any item. One student received extra balance to cover the shortfall. This is a common challenge in Nigerian supermarkets.

Overall, the students successfully managed their own shopping, made independent decisions, and took responsibility for their choices. Despite the minor challenge with change, the day was happy, enjoyable, and successful, with all students returning safely to the boarding house.

The shopping trip was successful and achieved its objectives. The students demonstrated good behaviour, independence, and responsibility. Their conduct earned praise from the supermarket staff, reflecting positively on the school. The minor issue with the change did not affect the overall experience, which was educational, enjoyable, and valuable for the students.

This was a powerful experience for all involved and gives meaning and expression to our philosophy that school and living in the JHC Boarding House go beyond mere academics and that what we teach must be practical in the real world. And as the French would say, they must develop 'savoir-faire'.





*The girls are ready to leave...*



*And the boys are ready to follow...*



*Paying the cashier as nothing is free*



*Striking a pose in the aisle...*





*'I never knew these were so expensive'*



*'One or two', decisions, decisions...*



*'We got what we came for'*

## JHC MAKES a SPLASH!

On 29 November 2025, James Hope College swimmers hit the pool in Lagos for the Dolphin Swimming League Season 7 (Leg 2). They gave it their all in every race and brought home 13 medals: 4 gold, 7 silver, and 2 bronze. Not bad at all for one day of tough competition!

### How We Did

Our swimmers raced in everything - from Breaststroke and Freestyle to Backstroke, Butterfly, Individual Medley, and Relays. Podium finishes were standard, but the real story was the progress. Many shaved seconds off their times and swam smarter than ever. You can see the effort paying off, and the programme is getting stronger every season.

### Standout Swimmers & Medals

- ❖ Chizitelu Oguegbu – Gold in 50m Freestyle and 50m Butterfly; Silver in 50m Backstroke, 100m IM, and 4×50m Mixed IM Relay.
- ❖ Barivure Lucky-Deekor – Gold in 50m Breaststroke; Silver in 50m Butterfly and 4×50m Mixed IM Relay.
- ❖ Onanoro W. Mueller – Gold in 50m Backstroke; Silver in 4×50m Mixed IM Relay; Bronze in 50m Butterfly and 100m Freestyle.
- ❖ Noruwa Akpata – Silver in 4×50m Mixed IM Relay.

### Highlights

Every swimmer gave their best. The relay teams moved like clockwork and earned their silver medals - watching them in action was impressive. Each race showed how much the students have grown and how far our swimming programme has come.

Hats off to all our swimmers for representing James Hope College with pride - and for showing that hard work really does pay off!

*Reported by Gbenga Akindele, HOD PE/Sport & Activities Coordinator*



*Barivure Lucky-Deekor taking 1<sup>st</sup> place*





*Chizitelu Oguebu being awarded 1<sup>st</sup> position*



*Onanoro W. Mueller being awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place*

## UNICORN U-14 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

The JHC Under-14 Football Team stormed into the Unicorn Tournament at Newhall School with energy, grit, and plenty of heart on Saturday, 29 November. Months of training showed in every pass, tackle, and goal. By the end of the day, the boys had earned bronze medals and a third-place trophy - a reward that felt more than deserved. Six schools from across Lagos turned up ready to battle, and the games did not disappoint. Some opponents were bigger, stronger, and slightly older, but our boys stayed calm, focused, and confident throughout.

The third-place play-off was a thriller. Calm under pressure, the boys stuck to their game plan and came out on top - ending the tournament on a high note after a day full of ups and downs.

### On the Pitch: Key Moments

- *Quick passes, sharp moves:* The Team's coordination clicked, with players anticipating each other and seizing opportunities at just the right moments.
- *Defense under fire:* Shots were blocked, passes intercepted, and balls cleared with determination - and a fair bit of grit.
- *Facing bigger opponents:* Size and strength did not scare them; they stayed fearless and played their hearts out.
- *Clinical finishing:* When chances came, they did not hesitate - especially in the 3rd-place match, showing nerves of steel.
- *Never give up:* Lost balls were immediately chased down, regrouped, and turned into fresh attacks. No quitters here!

For future tournaments, ensuring player age and eligibility are carefully checked will help keep the competition fair and safe. Our boys are ready for whatever comes next, and we will be cheering loudly every step of the way (because let us face it – they have earned it!).



*The Team with coach Omozojie Henry (far right) and Mr. Silas Maxwell (far left).*



## THE FUTURE INNOVATION COMPETITION

The Future Innovation Competition 2025 took place on 29 November 2025 at Café One, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos. This event was done under the auspices of AfriEduTech City. It provided an excellent platform for our students to showcase their talents and demonstrate the skills they have acquired during their in-house Robotics lessons. Our students presented a project on an Obstacle Avoidance Vehicle, which aligned with the competition's theme: Engineering Safer and Smarter Transportation.

I am pleased to report that our students secured **3<sup>rd</sup> place** out of the eight (8) participating schools, and this achievement qualifies them for the following opportunities:

- 1. A Physical Innovation Tour to Oracle Corporation:** A full-day immersive experience within Oracle's corporate environment, featuring:
  - Hands-on mentorship sessions with Oracle experts
  - Insights into technology career pathways
  - Exposure to real-world enterprise solutions
- 2. A One-Day Career Fair & Mentorship Drive at Microsoft Nigeria:** A guided experience at Microsoft's Lagos hub, including:
  - Career pathway sessions
  - Tech industry mentorship
  - Interactive learning opportunities

Further details regarding the schedules for the Oracle Corporation and Microsoft tours will be communicated to the school by the organiser as promised. Overall, our students exhibited excellent character and represented the school well as true ambassadors.



*From left to right: Baheen Salami, Nkemdi Ijoma, Jamal Muhammed, Rex Agbogu & Paul Olisa*





*Now let's get this vehicle working!*



*The JHC team won 3<sup>rd</sup> place with Messrs. Stephen (Robotics coach) and Atilola on each end.*

***Report written by Mr. Segun Atilola, JHC Robotics Club Coordinator***

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS**

### **JHC SWIMMING EVENT on 13 December 2025**

Please note that on Saturday, 13 December 2025, the JHC swimmers will participate in the **NNPC-SNEPCo Swimming Competition**, to be held at the Ikoyi Club Swimming Section. The parents of the selected students have been informed accordingly.

### **A REMINDER of the 2025/2026 INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL TRIP to CANADA**

As shared earlier, the international school trip to Canada  is approved for early August 2026 and open to students in Years 7 to 11.

For further information, including full details of the itinerary, costs, and registration procedures, parents should contact Mr. Clement Ikuyinminu (Vice-Principal Academic Affairs) who is the tour leader, at [clement.ikuyinminu@jameshopecollege.edu.ng](mailto:clement.ikuyinminu@jameshopecollege.edu.ng).

### **JHC PARENT-TEACHER FORUM Meeting Minutes**

Thank you for attending the recent Parent -Teacher Forum (PTF) on Saturday, 22 November 2025. The meeting minutes are now posted on the Educare portal for your perusal. Also, note that the sections typed in **red** are matters attended to by the SLT.

### **JHC SCHOOL MENU**

The JHC meals menu for term two will be posted on the Educare portal soon for parents to peruse and to provide input. Please share your feedback with Mrs. Funmi Gbadeyan at [funmilola.gbadeyan@jameshopecollege.edu.ng](mailto:funmilola.gbadeyan@jameshopecollege.edu.ng)

### **JHC INFORMATION to be POSTED on the EDUCARE PORTAL**

Please note the following will be posted on the Educare portal:

1. Boarding Handbook for Parents 2025/2026.
2. PTF Meeting Minutes of meeting 22 November 2025.
3. JHC Meal menu for term two (2).



## FUTURE EVENTS

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

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