



19/11/2020

I hope you all had a pleasant week.

As we reach the end of the first semester, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the amazing staff for dedication and hard work. When all industries were closed and under lockdown, our teachers continued to deliver quality teaching to our community, while still caring for their own families. Please make an effort to thank them.

I want to thank the parents and staff for welcoming me in to their community. We have changed much and will continue with our process of improvement over the years to come.

We have tried the Illumnus APP, which turned out to not to be effective for what we wanted to achieve. The owners of the school have committed themselves to the acquisition of a well developed and tested new product/s for our school! We are eagerly waiting for the introduction next semester. I wish all students a successful exams and a well-deserved winter break. See you all back on the 3rd of January after the holidays. Report Cards will be made available electronically early in semester two.

WINTER EXAMS

You will be pleased to know that teachers will be available from 2:30 until 16:00 in the afternoons for additional support. Students need to contact the teachers. Bus transport during exams will only be available for year 11 students, whom have paid for this service. Both North and South buses will be available on those days. Consult with Mr. Atef for further details. Please take note of these arrangements for the ONLINE exams:

- Parents **MUST** make sure that all students have the correct devices, must be able to scan where necessary and have the correct software. If you are not sure, please ask the teacher and year leaders
- Students **MUST** have their cameras on during exams.
- Students **MUST** be alone during the exams.
- The papers will be placed on Google Classroom by the teachers at the latest 8:20 in the morning.



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- Students will have 10 minutes to scan over the paper and ask final questions before starting the exams at 8:30
- Please make sure the whole paper is scanned and sent to the teachers as and where required after completion.
- Students will only have 10 minutes after the exams to hand in their exam sheets. Sending it in late or sending to the incorrect platform, will result in a disqualification from that exam!
- Absenteeism will not be tolerated and students will NOT get class averages etc. There will be NO make-up exams etc.!! A doctors' note will be required, stamped and attested by the DHA in case of a medical emergency.
- Please check the timings of the different papers! Some days have two sessions.
- If we suspect the students are receiving help, we will notify the HOS and teacher concerned immediately and the child's exams will be cancelled. I urge parents to assist the school by upholding the integrity of the exams.
- It was fortunate / unfortunate that we have a week in the middle of the exams created by public holidays, I urge our students to use this time wisely!
- Year 11 students must make sure they arrive at school and seated at 8:15 for their exams to start at 8:30. **WHEN LISTENING TESTS ARE CONDUCTED, STUDENTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN DEVICES AND HEADSETS!!**

TRAVELING DURING DECEMBER

Please check the re-entry requirements and guidelines from the UAE before traveling!

Year 10 Exams

Please note that the year 10 winter examinations will be conducted **ONLINE** at home. This decision was taken considering all aspects of social distancing etc. which may have complicated arrangements at school. Your children's health and safety is our main priority. There may be some subjects where the teachers will require the students in year 10 to come to school. These exams will be arranged directly by the concerned staff.

Revised WINTER EXAM TIMETABLE



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Due to the 29th and 30th that will be complete ONLINE days for the whole school, we decided to change the Timetable for the exams to support other operational arrangements made by the school. Please take note of the changes made to the 29th and 30th of November on the exam Timetable. **The revised Timetable was placed on the Web page, emailed and posted on the notices section of Illumnus.**

Devices for exams

Parents please take note that it is **your** responsibility to provide your child with the correct device for the online exams. **Students will have to be able to print and scan their work as was the case last year**

Year 11 IGCSE exam entries

The IGCSE exam entries were concluded this week. Further queries should be directed at Ms. Pricilla.

NEW TIMETABLE

Please be advised that we will follow a revised timetable after the holidays. These will be shared with students closer to the opening date of January 3rd 2021.

VPN Applications

Since yesterday all VPN applications are banned in the school. I personally spoke to all online as well as the BL students present in school yesterday. **SHOULD STUDENTS BE CAUGHT WITH THIS ON A DEVICE AT SCHOOL, WE WILL CONFISCATE THE DEVICE FROM STUDENTS AND IT MAY NOT BE RETURNED.** We had major problems at school with students using these applications to access inappropriate sites and to have access to social media. I urge parents to go through the devices at home and to delete all VPNs.

BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT Policy

The new behavior management policy is posted on the web page. I urge parents to take a moment and read through this important document.

GL TESTS

The GL tests were completed today after it commenced on the 12th October 2020. A big thank you for all parents for ensuring all students have the correct devices and bringing them to school on time. A special word of thanks to Mr. Raji for administering the exams.

CAT 4 TESTS



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The year 8 and 10 CAT4 tests will also be conducted during the month of November. Please consult the Exam Timetable. Arrangements have been put in place to send the codes to individual students.

A REMINDER:

If BL students fail to adhere to the current school rules, they will be asked not to join the blended learning cohort. They will be transferred to the online cohort. Their behavior poses a great Health and Safety risk if they do not adhere to the current rules.

IMPORTANT: We have now created email addresses for the year leaders. This will give you direct access to them and will help with any communication between the school and parents. I am still receiving many mails from parents on my school mail and personal mail. Please contact your year leaders first. Here are the email IDs for the various leaders:

yearleader7boys@auschool.ae

yearleader8boys@auschool.ae

yearleader9boys@auschool.ae

yearleader10boys@auschool.ae

yearleader11boys@auschool.ae

These mail IDs are created for a professional discussion with the year leaders. I respectfully ask the community to deal with emails in this way. Some parents still believe emails are social media platform...

If you have any concerns, please complete a complaint/ comment form and mail to the appropriate staff member. If you email the school doctor, IT manager etc. with a concern in the year 7 boys, then it is expected for it to go unanswered.

I wish you a pleasant weekend.

Regards,

Dr Nelius Jansen van Vuuren

HEAD of SENIOR BOYS SCHOOL