“Remember, Ginger Rogers did everything Fred Astaire did, but backwards and in high heels.”

Faith Whittlesey

Dear Parents,

Around the world International Women´s Day was marked this week and at OBS we also passed on our wishes to our female colleagues and pupils. We live in an era of greater equality for women but this has not always been the case. Though I still consider myself quite young and still on the right side of 50, I observed in my own childhood some clear discriminations towards my own sisters. In line with the majority of pupils of my generation I attended the Boys´ Secondary School, run by the Christian Brothers and my three sisters attended the Girls´ Secondary School run by the Sisters of Mercy. The Boys´ School offered all the ´masculine´ subjects such as Chemistry, Physics, Applied Mathematics, and Higher Mathematics. None of these was on offer for my sisters in their school. The only science subject available was Biology as this was seen as helpful for a career in Nursing. Thus, already by the choice of subjects the horizons for girls were being limited and curtailed. This custom was not just confined to my Irish childhood but it has thankfully disappeared and now girls rival if not surpass boys in the take up of science and technology subjects and certainly in terms of attainment and achievement. The subject choice limits on my sisters did not thankfully limit their job choices and they have all gone on to successful careers in IT.

My mother relates stories of far greater discrimination for working women and indeed my mother had to resign from her post in a government agency when she got married as this was the law at the time. She tells of a time when a woman was unable to have her own bank account as a married woman and to own any property individually; all automatically became the property of her husband on marriage.

We often look to non-western countries as the location or source of discrimination against women but it is not so long ago that western countries had similar restrictions and those changes did not happen without a long and contentious battle. The right to vote, the right to stand for election, the right to have reproductive controls, the right to study, the right to read, the right to work, these fundamental rights did not suddenly happen or the restrictions disappear overnight. This year in Ireland, my homeland, the nation is reflecting on the centenary of the Easter Rising in 1916, when there was an armed insurrection against British rule, and this event is seen as a key moment in national self-determination. What has been interesting this year as I follow centenary events from afar is that the role of women in this struggle 100 years ago has been belatedly acknowledged and now commemorated. The world has changed and many rights that we take for granted were the achievement of brave and courageous men and women and I salute these in my column this week.

We welcome visitors from the Council of International Schools (CIS) this weekend and they will be observing classes, touring the school, meeting various stakeholders and reflecting on our self-study report. This visit is the culmination of much work by staff and the Board of Governors and it will give us both validation and guidance going forward.

Wishing you all a weekend full of sunshine and relaxation!

Tom McGrath, Headmaster
WHOLE SCHOOL NOTICES

CAS INDIA DAY
Form 11 students have taken Creativity, Action and Service seriously: they are busy preparing a very exciting India Day, involving the whole OBS community. Form 11 is leaving for Agra, in India, on the 1st of April where they will work for 9 days helping the charity Wildlife SOS. It is very important for these youngsters to feel they have the whole community behind them with support and encouragement. They would like to take with them some financial support for the charity Wildlife SOS. With this in mind India Day was born.

SECONDARY INDIAN LUNCH - PARENTS AND FRIENDS WELCOME
Forms 6, 7, 8, 9 and are invited to attend the Indian Cuisine Special Lunch to be held in Teage Hall on 17th March 2016 from 13:15 to 14:50. There will be many surprises, music, prizes, dancing and a lot of fun for everyone. Lunch will be a selection of delicious foods (mild, nothing very hot) from India cooked by ladies of the Oporto Asian community.

Parents, please reserve lunchtime on Thursday 17th March 2016 in your diaries. Form 11 are delighted to welcome all OBS parents. Each family is encouraged to bring a friend (or two) to join in the fun.

Price students: € 5
Price adults: € 10

T-SHIRTS
Form 11 has designed their own special CAS t-shirt. We have seen the design and can assure you it is very nice. We would appreciate pre-orders to get the right number of sizes, please contact myself (Mr Hooley) if you would like to secure yours. You will find this on sale when you arrive for lunch on the 17th March.

DONATIONS
If you would like to support Wildlife SOS but are unable to attend on the day, perhaps you would like to make a small donation. In this case please contact Mr Hooley: mark.hooley@obs.edu.pt

Mark Hooley, CAS Co-ordinator

WORLD POETRY DAY
This week the whole school came together once again for our annual Poetry Eistedfodd, an opportunity to share great poetry through readings and performances by pupils of all ages as well as members of staff. Once again we witnessed some tremendous performances. The Early Years classes as ever provided visual accompaniments to their recitals to add charm and it was lovely to see each member of Prep, Reception and Form One contributing.

Although it may have been hard for those at the back of the Sports Hall to hear some of the younger voices, I made the point at the end that, not only is the appreciation of the magic of language something that poetry
can give us, but that the public speaking skills developed from such a young age are of great importance, something not lost on those students in Form Twelve who have been assessed for oral and presentation skills in TOK and languages of late. Special mention should go also to Filipa Pipiras of Form Five and Barbara Mendes of Form Six who actually performed poems that they had written themselves. Filipa delivered hers with particular aplomb, whilst it should be mentioned that Barbara’s piece came not as might be expected from an English lesson, but actually through Geography, reminding us that creativity and language skills are being developed across the Curriculum. Well done to all the performers, and the teachers who helped them.

Mark Weeks, Head of English

FIRST AID
I would like to inform you that this week we have received 23 cases (up until Wednesday) of the following symptoms:

- Strong headaches without a fever and tummy ache.
- One case of influenza B (contagious illness).

Lidia Ferreira, First Aider

PRIMARY NOTICES
This past week started with our whole school celebration of Poetry assembly. All Primary classes took part reciting some wonderful poetry though I was especially impressed with two pupils, Antonio and Filipa, for volunteering to recite a poem by themselves in front of over 400 students.

Our week ended with a special assembly to allow our students to present some dictionaries to the Director of a local Portuguese state school. The dictionaries were purchased with money from the Magusto Day bake sale earlier in the year. The Director was extremely appreciative of this act of generosity from our pupils.

The Pinewood Derby Cars (or I should say “the blocks of wood”) have been leaving my office at a very fast rate throughout this week. We still have plenty left should your child want to take part. Please refer back to last week’s bulletin for more information regarding this event. A few pupils asked me if they could use their car from a previous year - the answer is NO. All cars must be made new for this year. Also, if you want your car to win the fastest car competition then it must weigh less than 170 grams. The Racing is planned for Friday, May 6th at 3:30pm. More information will follow after the Easter break. The information website for this event is: http://www.pinewoodderby.org/#/one. This site is packed with video and photo examples, along with hints to build a fast car.

Thank you for your continued support with this event. Have a wonderful weekend.

Mark Evans, Head of Primary
PRIMARY PASTORAL WEEKLY REPORT

For the week ending 4th March the house point totals were: Windsor 896, Lancaster 946 and Bragança 914. The individual class winners are listed below. A display with this information can be found in the primary corridor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Pupil</th>
<th>House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIONS</td>
<td>Margarida Pinto Ribeiro</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maria Luisa Koelher</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIGERS</td>
<td>Miguel Santos</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Molly Costello</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Matilde Silva</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Maria Souto</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Matilde Cardoso</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4P</td>
<td>Maria Francisca Cardoso</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pedro Pinho</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4R</td>
<td>Francisco Ferreira</td>
<td>Bragança</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lucy Charles</td>
<td>Bragança</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5L</td>
<td>Joana Enneking</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>Devansh Kanabar</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class cup winners Form 3C

Jonathan Bridges, Primary Pastoral Coordinator

PRIMARY DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 14-18th March - CIS visit
- 15th -16th March - Primary Parents Evening - class teachers and Portuguese teachers
- 18th March - Yellow Spirit Day in Primary
- 21st March-1st April - EASTER BREAK
- 7-9th April - Lisbon Sports Tournament
- 11th April Summer Term clubs start back
- 6th May - Pinewood Derby Race
SECONDARY NOTICES

FORM 6-8 STARS OF THE WEEK

David Rocchi 6D
For his improved attitude and excellent behaviour in most subjects.

José Cunha & Tomás Koehler 8D
For their work on Empire and Slavery

FORM 9-10 STAR OF THE WEEK

Carlota Sousa Basto 9C
for achieving excellent results in Business.

NOTICE FOR FORM 10 STUDENTS AND PARENTS:

A reminder that the IGCSE practical examinations will commence directly after Easter:
6-7th April Art Paper 1
12th April ICT practical 1
13-14th April Paper 2
14th April ICT practical 2

All Form 10 students are expected to be in lessons up to and including Friday, 22nd April as they must not miss their final lessons. Pre-examination boosters and revision sessions with teachers make all the difference in the final stages of exam preparation.
NOTICE TO FORM 8 STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Form 8 Checkpoints will be held on the following dates:

Tuesday 19th April English
Wednesday 20th April Maths
Thursday 21st April Science

NOTICE TO FORM 6, 7, 9 AND 11 STUDENT AND PARENTS:

Summer Examinations will be held between Monday 23rd May and Monday 1st June. Teachers will provide revision lists to students and revision homework by April 23rd.

**Form 6 and 7 students** will have formal summer examinations (held in the Sports Hall) in the four Core subjects only: English, Maths, Science and Portuguese (First or Second language).

**Form 8 students** will only have non-Core subject assessments in May. These will be held in usual class time.

**Form 9 and 11** will have full formal examinations as per IGCSE/IBDP examinations. These will be held in the Sports Hall.

For all subjects and year groups, continuous assessment forms the main part of the assessment process here at OBS. All work in all lessons is part of this ongoing, continuous assessment.

The timetable will be confirmed three weeks in advance of the examinations following consultations with teachers, students and parents.

Ailish Corcoran, Academic Coordinator.

TRIP TO THEATRE

On Thursday, March 3rd 2016, between 9.30 a.m. to 12.30pm, Forms 7G and 7N, accompanied by their Portuguese teachers, had the opportunity to attend the play "Leandro, King of Heliria" written by Alice Vieira, in the Auditorium of the Social Center Padre Ramos in Leça. This play is part of the Curriculum Metas Curriculares. There was interaction between the characters and the audience. Students were always attentive, interested and enthusiastic.

Leta Ferreira, Portuguese Teacher

ART AWARD

Ana Filipa in 7G was awarded a prize by Miss Castro for her fantastic work in art.
IB VISIT

We were visited this week by a former IB Diploma student from Seven Oaks School in England. Issy gained 45 points at IB and went on to study Spanish and Portuguese at Cambridge. She works for an Educational company called Lanterna which specializes in supporting IBDP students. Issy proved to be a font of knowledge and passed on some excellent advice to our F10s, 11s and 12s.

Form 10 were given some final pointers about how to choose IB subjects and also about researching and reading around their choices over the summer holidays. Form 11, who are embarking on their Extended Essays were given vital advice on ways to avoid procrastination and manage their workload. Issy also spoke of the value of completing the process of the Extended Essay when starting university.

Keeping it Simple Silly (or Kiss as she referred to it!) was a superb trick to help both the F11s and 12s with their TOK and Extended Essays. If you can explain it to your younger brother or sister - you’ve got it!

The F12s were treated to some last minute tips on revision and time management. Some have honed their skills throughout the two year course and met all deadlines but others have still got some way to go. As the week draws to an end, the Extended Essays are being packaged to be sent and the TOK presentations completed. With one week before the holidays and just three weeks before the examinations it is vital that the F12s ensure 100% attendance and punctuality.

Please see below a link to the Lanterna website where students can find free resources and information on revision courses and pre IB/Mid year IB summer programmes: http://www.lanternaeducation.com/

Claire Marsden, IB Co-ordinator

SECONDARY TERM THREE: KEY DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trip or Event</th>
<th>Form Groups</th>
<th>Internal/External</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS trip</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>External</td>
<td>Apr 1st - Apr 9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Sports Festival</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>St Julian’s</td>
<td>7-9 Apr (Th-Sa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls Basketball</td>
<td>6,7</td>
<td>St Julian’s</td>
<td>7-9 Apr (Th-Sa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boys FB</td>
<td>8,9</td>
<td>St Julian’s</td>
<td>7-9 Apr (Th-Sa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DofE qualifying expedition</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>External</td>
<td>16-17 Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form 12 study leave</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Internal</td>
<td>20th Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form 11&amp;12 ESS/Geo day trip</td>
<td>11&amp;12</td>
<td>tbc</td>
<td>tbc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form 10 study leave</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Internal</td>
<td>27th Apr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School play</td>
<td>tbc</td>
<td>Nevogilde Theatre</td>
<td>28th-29th April</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS 2016

- Form 8 Cambridge Checkpoint Exams: 19th, 20th, 21st April
- IGCSE Practical Examinations (Art): 6th and 7th April 2016 (all day)
- IGCSE Practical Examinations (ICT): 12th and 14th April 2016 (AM exams)
- IGCSE Speaking Examinations March/April 2016
- IGCSE 3rd May to 10th June 2016
- IBDP: 2nd May to 20th May 2016

INTERNAL EXAMINATIONS Summer 2016

- Form 6-7 English, Maths, Science and Portuguese Examinations: 23rd May - 3rd June
- 9 & 11 Summer Examinations: 23rd May - 3rd June

SCHOOL LUNCHES - THIS WEEK’S MENU

Please book your child’s lunches via our website: