Dear Parents,

Our Form 5 pupils have completed a busy week of examinations where they sat six papers, two in English, Mathematics and Science. These Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Assessments are important for a number of reasons.

1. They provide pupils, parents and teachers with externally set and marked assessments of pupils’ ability in the core subjects.

2. This objective external assessment gives reassurance and validity to the work done at school and informs our secondary colleagues in terms of preparing the programmes of study in these core subjects in Form 6.

3. It gives structure and targets for pupils and teachers. Pupils and teachers can identify areas of strength and possible weaknesses thus ensuring that we can focus on areas for improvement.

4. It helps the school to build up data on pupil achievement year on year and we can track and set targets accordingly.

5. It gives pupils the experience of formal examinations in a supportive environment and it prepares pupils for the process of formal examinations in secondary school.

The primary Checkpoint examinations have now been sent off for marking and we will receive the results before the end of this academic year. I thank Ms Corcoran, Mrs Costello and all the invigilators for the smooth running of the examinations.

We welcome back many Form 11 students from their CAS trip to Morocco. CAS, Creativity, Action and Service, is a key part of the IB philosophy and all IBDP students are required to complete a variety of projects and, more importantly, to reflect on these experiences. I thank Mr Simson for the very successful arrangements for the trip and to Miss Macleod who accompanied Mr Simson on the trip. There is a full account inside.

The Lisbon Sports Tournament was a huge success and the best in terms of results for over ten years; some of our athletes had not yet been born when we last did so well. There is also an account inside and I add my congratulations to the teams and their coaches. We are very proud of you all.

We send our condolences to Mrs Gander whose sister died this week. Mrs Gander will be away next week attending the funeral.

Tom McGrath, Headmaster
SECONDARY NOTICES

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

There was much to celebrate this week. OBS pupils continue to show excellence in academics, service and sports!

- Our outstanding academic achievements that put OBS above all school world averages and place it as one of the best schools for exam results in the country
- Specific pupils who have shown commitment and perseverance in their learning (see the newsletter http://www.obs.edu.pt/en/news/ for details)
- House competitions and the House Athletics event
- The return of our Form 11 students from their successful CAS trip to Morocco where they not only supported a local community but also developed skills for citizenship
- And our achievements at the Lisbon Sports Festival where our Division Three Basketball girls gained Silver medals and our Division Four Basketball Team gained GOLD.

BEST WISHES TO FORM 10

This week we say goodbye to Form 10 who have finished their formal IGCSE timetable and now have study leave to revise thoroughly for their examinations.

For all information related to exams please see http://www.obs.edu.pt/en/news/. Results will be available on Tuesday 11th August 2015 from 6am. All Form 10 students have a login and password to access their results online. If there are any queries following the results, please email Miss Corcoran ailish.corcoran@obs.edu.pt or Dr. Jones.

END OF YEAR EXAMS (WEEK BEGINNING 25TH MAY)

All pupils will receive an exam timetable within the next two weeks. They will also receive revision lists for Maths, English, Science and Portuguese. A reminder that for Forms 6 - 8 only English, Maths, Science and Portuguese examinations will be held in the Sports Hall. All other examinations will be held during normal lesson time therefore it is essential that students attend school as normal over the exam period. Form 9 and 11 will sit all of their examinations in the Sports Hall and should be onsite all day during the examinations as they should be revising in school when they do not have an exam.

HOUSE POINTS

Lancaster is in the lead with 3856 points!
CARMUN

Pupils are currently participating in the Carvalhos MUN conference. More news will follow!

FORM 7 THEATRE TRIP

On the 7th May pupils will be furthering their cultural and linguistic knowledge in Portuguese. Details can be found at http://www.obs.edu.pt/en/essentials/recent-trip-letters/

LISBON SPORTING SUCCESS

THANK YOU

Many thanks to Mr Homewood, all of the teachers and Mr Packett for giving up their time to support the Lisbon Games. Many thanks also to Miss Macleod and Mr Simson for their time and work supporting the Form 11 CAS trip.

“I was extremely happy with the results of all the OBS Basketball Teams at the Lisbon Sports Tournament. The Division 5 girls played against teams from across Portugal and our best score was against St Dominic’s which we won 40:0. To reach the final we played 5 games and won all 5. In the final we were narrowly beaten by IPS who won 13:10. Since our last competitive games at the CLIP Tournament our team has improved dramatically and achieving second place in Lisbon was higher than my expectations. Who knew that Division 5 Girls had such a team!”

Madalena Pinto (Team Captain)
**LUNCH**

Please be reminded that the school does not allow take-away food such as pizza to be brought into school. We would appreciate your co-operation in this matter. Thank you.

**CAS TRIP TO MOROCCO**

Form 11 has returned from their week’s service trip to Morocco. They learned a huge amount about the culture of Morocco and met some incredibly friendly and hospitable people. The service work they participated in consisted of two parts, teaching in a school and helping to restore a building of historical significance. The twelve students were a credit to the school and their families, and worked extremely well together as a group. They will present a report in assembly to the secondary section on Tuesday 5th May.

We have raised over €2000 through fundraising so far this year and this money will be donated to the charity that we worked with in Morocco (Atlas Cultural Foundation).

For the remainder of the term Form 11 will be trying to raise some more funds to donate. For the next few weeks they will be selling t-shirts that they designed for the trip; many thanks for your continued support of the CAS 2015 Morocco project.

Hassan (ACF), Chaima (Rustic Pathways), Sam Busovksy, Jenny Varanda, Carlota Rodrigues, Francisco Gonçalves, Maria Coelho, Filipa Santos, Joaoa Versteeg, Miss Macleod, Mr Simson, Ayoub (ACF), Ismail (ACF), Khadija (Rustic Pathways) Fransiska Borges, Ana Filipe Bela and Sadiaa (mascot), Rita Filipe, Inês Seixas, Joana Araújo.
## PRIMARY NOTICES

### HEAD OF PRIMARY COMMENDATION AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Recipient</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to Mariana for producing the best Portuguese language short stories throughout the last term</td>
<td>Mariana Barros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to David for being the best Portuguese language reader within his class last term</td>
<td>David Machado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to Inês for working extremely hard to improve her English reading and writing</td>
<td>Inês Dong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to Maria for consistently producing assignments of a high presentation quality</td>
<td>Maria Rui Bastos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to António for great improvements with his report writing objectives</td>
<td>António Cunha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to Rita for her consistent outstanding effort and attainment in Mathematics throughout the year.</td>
<td>Rita Santos</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to Lara for her consistent outstanding effort and enthusiasm in Reading throughout the year.</td>
<td>Lara Machado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to Filipa for her consistent outstanding effort and attainment in English throughout the year.</td>
<td>Filipa Pipers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to Noa for her attention to detail towards her class work, and also for the excellent presentation and neatness of her writing in English.</td>
<td>Noa Kooiman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commendation awarded to Tomás for his excellent story writing and enthusiasm for writing.</td>
<td>Tomás Paúl</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### BLUE DAY FOR CHARITY

On Wednesday, 29th of April we would like to request that pupils come dressed in blue and contribute 1.00€ (minimum donation), which will be used towards this cause/project. Please see more information about this in whole school notices.

Profª Mónica Oliveira, Primary Portuguese Teacher
ART WORK IN PRIMARY

This week Mr Harrison and I have been gathering in the many striking artworks created by pupils in Primary to be entered into an international art competition. The theme is: I live in this beautiful place...

If we were not already convinced that we are indeed fortunate to study and live in the city, then this is a reminder of what we should appreciate in Porto brought to life by our talented young artists.

Amena Tasnim Korobi 4F

João Cardoso 2B

Lisa Craig (Able, Gifted and Talented Coordinator)
INTER SCHOOLS CHESS TOURNAMENT AT EFANOR

On Friday, Sue Saraiva and I had the pleasure of accompanying twelve of our primary pupils to the annual Inter-school Chess Tournament (This year held at Efanon school). For those new to the event, and even those that had attended previously (as there were a number of changes) both anticipation and excitement levels were extremely high.

Students competed in 5 games up against representatives from Efanon, Rosario, CLIP and Lycée Français.

Whether winning or losing, each match began and concluded with a handshake and congratulations.

The behaviour and attitude of our pupils throughout the 4 hour competition was exemplary.

Narrowly missing out, in some cases, on the coveted top 3 ranked spots - All pupils did receive a medal and certificate and gained much from the experience of competing at this event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament</th>
<th>Sportsmanship</th>
<th>Waiting Room</th>
<th>Awards</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Students competed in 5 games up against representatives from Efanon, Rosario, CLIP and Lycée Français.</td>
<td>Whether winning or losing, each match began and concluded with a handshake and congratulations.</td>
<td>The behaviour and attitude of our pupils throughout the 4 hour competition was exemplary.</td>
<td>Some of our OBS Champs collecting their participation medals and certificates as part of the award ceremony.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The pupils were a credit to you and to the school. Both Sue and I, after this, cannot wait to hear of / see what happens next for these very talented individuals! #WatchThisSpace 😊

Emma Torcato, Head of Learning Support and EAL
BLUE DAY FOR CHARITY

On the 29th of April a charitable organisation called “Make a Wish” celebrates its 35th anniversary. For this reason as a school we have organised a “dress-up-in-blue-day” to support this charity.

“Make a Wish” is an international organisation that works with children who have cancer or other degenerative illnesses and its aim is to make these children´s wishes come true.

On Wednesday, 29th of April we would like to request that pupils come dressed in blue and contribute 1.00€ (minimum donation), which will be used towards this cause/project. As part of this awareness day we will be having a school assembly to explain the importance of this event. The remainder of the day will follow your child´s normal timetable. Please would you join us in this noble cause!

For more information, do not hesitate to contact Professora Mónica Oliveira monica.oliveira@obs.edu.pt. Thank you in advance for all your support and donations.

Professora Mónica Oliveira, Primary Portuguese Teacher and “Make a Wish” volunteer

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION REMINDER

Children, staff and parents are invited to enter our whole school photography competition. The title and theme is ‘This is the beautiful place that I live in........’ To see current entries you can visit http://obsphotographycompetition.weebly.com/staff-photos.html. To ensure everyone has the opportunity to submit photographs we have decided to extend the closing date to Friday, 22nd May. This is a Senior School event as well as a Primary School event.

James Harrison, Primary Art coordinator

PARENT ESSENTIALS ON WEBSITE

Please be aware that there is a Parent Essentials section on our website, with links to the Parent Bulletin, any recent trip letters, the school calendar and the school canteen.

There will be a parent portal in the near future too, where you will be able to access your child’s class blog and any other information relevant to your child: www.obs.edu.pt

DATES FOR THE DIARY

29th April Dress up in Blue Day for Charity
30th April No School - INSET Day for Teaching Staff
01st May Bank Holiday (Feriado)
04th May Prep Trip to Casa da Musica
07th May Form 7 Trip to Theatre