



Newsletter #52

30th August 2018

Dear Parents/Students/Alumni/Governors,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a restful time together and that the students are ready for another year of discovery and success.

During the past couple of weeks, teachers have been in to school to find out the results that their students gained in the examinations and to start planning for the term ahead. We were extremely pleased with the improvements in AS results this year and the continued high standards set by our graduating Year 13's. However, it was this year's IGCSE results which really grabbed the headlines. Congratulations to all of our Year 11's who, led by their Head of Year, Mr Izzett gained brilliant results. Some examples:

English Language 97% pass rate (UK 62%). Of this, 15% gained the top grade of a '9' which is harder to achieve than the old A*. World-wide '9' is only given to 4% of the students. There were also five grade 9's in English Literature. Mathematics continued with their consistently high results which year on year out-perform the world-wide average. 86% pass rate (UK 55%).

We shall summarise the results fully in the next newsletter, but other notable headlines were:

Physics 57% with either A* or A (UK 46%)

Chemistry 56% A*/A (UK 47%)

History 51% A*/A (UK 32%)

Art 53% A*/A (UK 25%)

Spanish 75% A*/A (UK 36%)

These are truly fantastic and a credit to the students, parents and teachers who all play their part in the success story.

This November, the school will be hosting an inspector from the Council of British International Schools (COBIS) who will be coming to see if SAIntS has achieved the important status of COBIS compliance. It is important that the leadership of the school ensures that high standards are maintained in all areas. Of particular importance are safeguarding, attendance, behaviour and appearance of students, safety and of course the standard of teaching and learning in the school.

During the holidays, our new Facilities Manager, Mr Ivor Mbengo started work at the school. He has prioritised improvements in boys' boarding and ensuring that drains, walkways and steps are safe. He is as keen as all of us to bring further improvements to the school site.

We welcome three new teachers to the school. One name you may already recognise is Mr Phillips, who worked at SAIntS two years ago. He is rejoining us as Head of PE replacing Mr Penttinen who returned

to Finland in July. Ms Speake has joined the Economics and Business Department as it is expanding and requires an additional teacher. Also joining an expanding department is Ms Nyirenda who joins Learning Support as a teacher of English as an additional language. The humanity and Science Faculties are also hosting two graduate teachers for one term as part of our memorandum of understanding signed between SAIntS and CHANCO University in Zomba. We shall be assisting them as they start their careers in teaching.

I hope that you are all ready for school. Teachers are in tomorrow for their first training day. Some of the topics being studied by the teachers are:

Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs/Inclusion, new GCSE 9-1 grade scales, challenge, motivation, Assessment for Learning and Behaviour Management.

Kieron P. Smith, Head Teacher

Calendar Dates

SEPTEMBER

4 th	School Opens for Years 7 (am) and Year 12 (pm)
5 th	School Opens for all
8 th 07:00-12:00	Year 12 Team Building
11 th 17:30-18:00	D of E Info Evening
13 th - 15 th	Year 11 Residential/D of E Silver
20 th - 23 rd	Year 13 Residential
24 th - 25 th	Yr 9 Geog Trip (Future Stars)
28 th - 30 th	Kamuzu Academy PE Fixtures

HAIR



All students' hair must comply with the following rules:

- Hair must be neat, tidy and well-groomed at all times;
- Use of hair dye or any other hair colouring, bleaching or tinting is not permitted;
- Long hair must be tied back from the face;
- Hair ties or hair bands must be plain black or navy blue;
- Boys must be clean-shaven;
- Extreme hairstyles (including, but not restricted to: stark contrasts of hair length, excessively shaved partings, mohawks, shaved lines, skin fades, etc.) are not permitted;
- Clipped sides must be evenly graduated;
- Hair braids may be worn but must also abide by all of the above.

Students who fail to abide by the above or who keep scruffy or unkempt hair in school may be sent home by their Head of Year or a Senior Teacher.

If there is any doubt about whether a haircut or hairstyle is in keeping with SAIntS rules, it will be referred to the students' Senior Prefect Team in the first instance. Nevertheless, the final decision rests with the Head Teacher.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Why is high attendance important to your child's education?

A recent study found that 90% of young people with absence rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades of GCSE and around one third achieve no GCSEs at all.

Another study found the following key pass rates (the percentage of students achieving 5 or more GCSE passes including English and Mathematics)

Attendance	Pass Rate
100%	79%
95% (one day off per month)	69%
90% (one day off per fortnight)	53%
85%	36%

In short, Attendance Matters!

And finally

A huge welcome to all the new students joining SAIntS across all year groups. A special welcome to our (approximately 100!) Diamond Year 7 cohort.

Endless Opportunities