“God gave us memory so that we might have roses in December”  

James M. Barrie

Dear Parents,

The festive season began in the school this week with the Solidarity Concert at Exponor and the Form 4 Production, The Grinch that stole Christmas. My thanks to Shana Patterson, Filipe Oliveira and Mark Evans respectively for all their work on these events. Please join us for the Tree lighting ceremony on Monday 7th when we will have music, singing, snacks and mulled wine. My thanks to the PTA for supplying the mulled wine for the Tree ceremony.

Last year we launched a new Christmas initiative for secondary pupils and this will continue this year. On Thursday 17th December in the afternoon we will have a Christmas lunch for all the secondary pupils in the gymnasium. Seated with their Form tutors the pupils will enjoy a festive meal and we want them to join in the spirit of Christmas by decorating their tables, dressing up for the event and joining in with the Christmas carols in preparation for the Carol Concert that follows these festivities. For this lunch the following principles are in place:

- Pupils are formally dressed as if going to a special dinner; they can also add some festive party hats
- Pupils sit with their Form group and with their tutor
- Each tutor group is expected to decorate their Christmas table; we will be choosing the most festive table.
- The meal will be start with a short prayer and we expect all pupils to exchange Christmas greetings with each other and their tutor.

On Thursday 17th we host the annual Christmas Carol concert at Stella Maris Church starting at 4.30pm. All parents are invited to join the school pupils at this traditional event. Details will be in next week`s bulletin.

Tom McGrath, Headmaster

COLLECTION OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

This year’s collection of children’s Christmas presents will be donated to Abraço, an association that helps people with HIV & AIDS. Within their work they support families with approximately 250 children from 0 to 15 yrs old. Please label all presents with the age of the child they are appropriate for and whether they are intended for a boy or girl. In addition, any toys or games in good condition your children no longer need or use are also welcome. All donations can be left at the Front Office.

SCHOOL CLOSED: 8TH DECEMBER
WHOLE SCHOOL NOTICES

SOLIDARITY CONCERT

We have had a busy week in Music with the Primary Choir and some of our string players performing at the Solidarity Concert. The concert went very well, the choir sang beautifully and the instrumentalists were very patient to wait until the end of the concert to showcase their talents. We are very proud of them, and we look forward to bringing even more students with us next year to the Solidarity Concert.

Special thanks to everyone who supported and attended the concert, and especially to the following members of staff and parents who have helped us along the way: Mrs Vasconcelos, Mr Evans, Mrs Cristina Silva, Mrs Daniela Lazzara, Mrs Mónica Mota and Mrs Micaela Fontão.

Miss Patterson, Head of Music

TREE LIGHTING- 7TH DECEMBER

MEN’S CLOTHING DONATIONS

Please may we request donations of men´s cold weather clothing (including socks, shoes, gloves, hats, underwear) as well as blankets and towels to be brought to school on Wednesdays (lunchtime) 2nd, 9th and 16th of December. This will be donated to the homeless charity C.A.S.A here in Porto which F12 are supporting as part of their IBDP CAS programme.

Karen Smith, Form 12 tutor
PRIMARY NOTICES

I would like to thank all parents for attending this week’s meetings with the teachers. I hope that you found this opportunity to discuss your child’s progress a valuable and worthwhile experience. If you were not able to make your appointment please do contact the teacher directly and they will be happy to arrange another suitable time.

Form 4 have just finished their performances of “How the Grinch Stole Christmas”. This was a wonderful experience for all pupils and they definitely continued to show their superb ability with the performing arts; well done to all Form 4 pupils. I would also like to thank Sue Saraiva and Lucy Packett - who both offered their Make-up skills to transform pupils into dogs and a Grinch. Another very big THANK YOU to Cristina Silva for coordinating all of the costuming for this production.

Have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you at some of our events before we break up for the holidays.

Mark Evans, Head of Primary

PRIMARY PASTORAL WEEKLY REPORT

For the week ending 27th November the house point totals were: Windsor 871, Lancaster 1046 and Bragança 1044. 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>Francisco Horta e Vale</td>
<td>Bragança</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TIGERS</td>
<td>João Cavaca</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Beatriz Coelho</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3C</td>
<td>Monica Zhu</td>
<td>Bragança</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3H</td>
<td>Benedita Pinto Hespanhol</td>
<td>Bragança</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4P</td>
<td>Pedro Pinho</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rodrigo Rocha</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4R</td>
<td>Manuel Maria Monteiro</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5L</td>
<td>Lourenço Jervell</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joana Enneking</td>
<td>Windsor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5B</td>
<td>João Pedro Bastos</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jonathan Bridges (Primary Pastoral Coordinator)
PE LESSONS

This week in Form 5 PE (Basketball), Rita Santos won the First Form Five Free Throw Fest. Not only did she manage to beat all other members of form 5 to score the most basketball free throws in the whole year but she managed to pronounce the title she won. Well done Rita.

This week is the turn of the Form Four Free Throw Fest. I look forward to reporting on the winner next week.

Matt Homewood, Head of PE and Games

HOUR OF CODE

Take part in the Hour of Code™ with Discovery Education Coding
7–13 December 2015

The Hour of Code initiative hopes to encourage every pupil across the globe to dedicate 1 hour to learning how to code between 7th – 13th December! The first Hour of Code in the UK had over 3 million participants! Now in its third year we’re continuing to encourage pupils, teachers and parents to take part.

DISCOVERY EDUCATION'S HOUR OF CODE PUPIL PACKS

Designed to encourage pupils to spend an hour teaching a parent or guardian how to code. Download your chosen themed pack to start creating your app with Discovery Education Coding.

http://www.discoveryeducation.co.uk/what-we-offer/discovery-education-coding/hour-of-code

For more information please contact: David.Padden@obs.edu.pt

Mr Padden, Form 4 Teacher
SECONDARY NOTICES

FORM 6-8 STAR OF THE WEEK

FORM 7G
Whole class

FORM 7G
Form 7G for being consistently good across all subjects (especially English) and working well as a team.

FORM 9
Tiago Enneking for excellent effort and behaviour in all of his subjects this week and outstanding performance in PE.

FORM 10
Yiting Cao and Jessica Zhu for outstanding results (98%) in their maths test

SECONDARY MOVE TOWARDS CYBERSPACE!

http://secondaryobserver.weebly.com/

A blog will take over from our termly newsletter, The Secondary OBServer. The blog aims to ensure that teachers, parents and pupils are all on the same page. It aims to inform the secondary school community about a wide range of news and stories in order to support the learning and education of our children. You will find stories from inside the classroom and beyond. You will also be able to access all key notices and useful links to other sites.

Enjoy the read! (please do email me with any feedback on the format or content)

Dr P Jones, Head of Secondary
THE DAY

We are happy to share with you this excellent site and resource. Being aware of current global issues is an essential part of becoming a critical global thinker and citizen, ‘The Day’ is certainly an excellent tool to support understanding and stimulate debate. The site has many articles and resources available here for students, parents and teachers. Make full use of this wonderful resource wherever and whenever you can.

http://theday.co.uk/
User name: obs
Password: theday

COFFEE MORNING RE ABLE AND GIFTED PROGRAMME - IGGY

To view IGGY’s special school launch video, and for an opportunity to raise any queries you may have regarding IGGY as well as chat with other parents, I wish to invite selected parent to a coffee morning on Tuesday, 15th December at 9:00am in the Primary Learning Support Room (opposite the Primary Library).

IGGY is an international social and education network for 3 18 years olds created by the University of Warwick. It gives members access to interactive educational resources and allows students to work with academics, student mentors and other talented young people around the world to exchange ideas, debate, learn and explore in a safe environment.

The programme focuses on providing challenging content in Maths, English, Science, History, Politics and Life Skills along with a wide range of other subjects.

Mark Crowhurst, Head of Learning Support

FORM 10 AND 12 MOCK EXAMINATIONS

A draft of the mock examination timetable has been reviewed by both Form 10 and 12 students. The examinations run from Tuesday, 5th January to Tuesday, 12th January inclusive. A full final version will be sent to parents by email today. Please note that Form 10 students are not on study leave and are expected to be in school from 8.45 until 16.10. Form 12 are on study leave. Study facilities will be available for all students.
FORM 10 AND 12 EXAMINATION STUDY CLUB
The Study Club will commence on Monday, 7th December 2015.

Monday 4.15 - 5.15 in E2
Tuesday 4.15 - 5.15 in E3
Thursday 4.15 - 5.15 in E2

The Study Club will be a quiet, technology free area for Form 10 and 12 students to revise and prepare for their examinations. It is important that students who have been invited attend every session, including subject clinics.

Ailish Corcoran

FROM THE IBDP DESK- NYU SKYPE MEETING
Today a group of form 11 and 12 students were involved in a Skype conference with Claire Wilkinson, Admissions Officer for New York University. It was a productive and informative discussion regarding courses, fees, scholarships and the value they place on the IB Diploma. A more comprehensive report will be ready for next week’s bulletin.

FORM 11 DEADLINE CALENDAR
A PROVISIONAL calendar of deadlines for January 2016 to May 2017 is attached to this bulletin.

Finally, a big thank you to those parents who attended the IB information meeting on Tuesday morning. It was lovely to see some familiar faces and meet the parents of prospective students. If anyone would like any further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

claire.marsden@obs.edu.pt

Claire Marsden, IB Coordinator

F7, 8, 11 PARENTS EVENING

- Appointments can be made on our online booking system: https://oportobritishschool.parentseveningsystem.co.uk
- There will be a 15 mins parents’ session at 5.15 and 7.15pm in the Teage Hall Form 7&8 parents. This will focus on Cambridge Secondary and Checkpoints.
- There will also be a 15 minute parent session on the IB Diploma at 6.30pm for F11 parents

PE & SPORTS NEWS

PE LESSONS
Most of secondary have been completing their Volleyball skills challenges and we have uncovered some talented players that have managed to score at or above 95%. Well done to the following;

Form 6 - Barbara Mendes & JP Martins
Form 8 - Leonor Oliveira
Form 9 - Carlos Barbosa, Tiago Enneking, Goncalo Guerreiro, Tomas Rocchi, Guiomar Rola, Francisco Meira

Form 10 have been studying, practising and coaching set plays in basketball for their final basketball skills challenges next week. A further well done to Filipe Chiou & Marta Ramos who currently stand out as having a score above 95%.
CLUBS
As we look forward to the new year and expanding the number of clubs and activities we have on offer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>4:30-5:30</th>
<th>Boys Football</th>
<th>Forms 8-12</th>
<th>Parque da Cidade</th>
<th>Mr Homewood &amp; Mr Filipe Oliveira</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>4:15-5:00</td>
<td>Girls Basketball</td>
<td>Forms 8-12</td>
<td>Outside Court</td>
<td>Mr João Oliveira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4:15-5:00</td>
<td>Boys Football</td>
<td>Forms 6&amp;7</td>
<td>School Astro</td>
<td>Mr Soares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4:15-5:00</td>
<td>Girls Basketball</td>
<td>Forms 6&amp;7</td>
<td>Sports Hall</td>
<td>Ms Gander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>4:15-5:00</td>
<td>Karate &amp; Judo</td>
<td>All Forms</td>
<td>Sports Hall</td>
<td>Mr Mota &amp; Mr Fonseca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>4:15-5:00</td>
<td>Mixed Cricket</td>
<td>Forms 5-9</td>
<td>School Astro</td>
<td>Mr Homewood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1:15-1:40</td>
<td>Mixed Volleyball</td>
<td>Forms 5-9</td>
<td>Sports Hall</td>
<td>Ms Soares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>4:15-5:00</td>
<td>Girls Basketball</td>
<td>Forms 8-9</td>
<td>Sports Hall</td>
<td>Mr Soares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>4:15-5:00</td>
<td>Karate &amp; Judo</td>
<td>All Forms</td>
<td>Sports Hall</td>
<td>Mr Mota &amp; Mr Fonseca</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLUBS QUESTIONNAIRE
As we look forward to the New Year and expanding the number of clubs and activities we have on offer, we are also looking at introducing Table Tennis, Badminton, Rugby, Ultimate Frisbee & Swimming during the term. Please click here [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BBHF79L](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BBHF79L) to complete a questionnaire regarding the school Extra Curricular Club offer to:

1) gauge your satisfaction with the current offer and
2) ask for suggestions that you may have.

I really appreciate your feedback and hope to incorporate your suggestions where possible. I shall summarise the responses and the PE department’s action plan in the Parents Bulletin after Christmas. Many thanks in advance for your taking your time to answer this.

COMPETITIONS
Next week, 26 pupils head to Lisbon to compete in the Varsity boys basketball and Varsity girls football competitions at CAISL and St Julian´s respectively. The Varsity division represents the best team that a school can select from all age groups and is the pinnacle of the independent schools competitive sports calendar. We wish Mr Soares, Mr Oliveira, Ms Hillyard and the players the best of luck for the 3 days.

The calendar below lists the possible competitions of 2016. These are subject to confirmation in early January.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tuesday 12th / 13th January</th>
<th>School Cross Country Championships</th>
<th>Forms 2-12</th>
<th>Parque da Cidade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 25 January</td>
<td>National Volleyball Championships</td>
<td>Form 5</td>
<td>CAISL (Sintra)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 26 January</td>
<td>National Volleyball Championships</td>
<td>Form 6&amp;7</td>
<td>CAISL (Sintra)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday &amp; Friday 28th &amp; 29th January</td>
<td>Benjamin’s Festival (boys football, girls basketball)</td>
<td>Form 5</td>
<td>CLIP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 3 February</td>
<td>Lisbon Cross Country Championships</td>
<td>Forms 5-9</td>
<td>OIS (Oeiras)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SECONDARY DATES FOR THE SECOND HALF OF TERM ONE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trip or Event</th>
<th>Form Groups</th>
<th>Internal/External</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Secondary performance Evening and Xmas Tree Lighting</td>
<td>F6-12</td>
<td>Internal and sponsored by the PTA</td>
<td>7th Dec from 4.30pm All parents welcome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varsity Festival BBB GFB</td>
<td>10,11,12</td>
<td>ST JUL / CAISL</td>
<td>Thu 10 Dec to Sat 12 Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14th Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Service</td>
<td>Whole Secondary</td>
<td></td>
<td>17th Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17th Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REPORTING AND RECORDING SCHEDULE 2015-16

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current attainment grade, effort grade report for, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12 (current target grade for exam years only)</th>
<th>Mon 7th Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents evening for 7, 8 and 11</td>
<td>Wed 9th Dec</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full written report for 6 and 9</td>
<td>Wed 16th Dec</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dr P Jones, Head of Secondary
DATES FOR THE DIARY

- 7th December - Christmas tree lighting service
- 8th December - Public Holiday
- 11th December - Reception Nativity play
- Carol Service - 17th December, Stella Maris Church
- 18th December - half day of school
- 5th January 2016 - First day of Spring term
- 12th / 13th January - F2-F12 Cross Country

CIS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Committee meetings will take place on 14th December at 4.30pm.

PORTO CONNECT

Porto Connect has forwarded these attachments regarding LIVE TRANSMISSIONS of Opera, Ballet and Plays from the UCI Arrabida Shopping cinemas and the NOS Norteshopping cinemas over the next few weeks. If you wish to join their mailing list please contact Porto Connect: portoconnect@gmail.com