

SCHOOL NEWS LETTER

Introduction: All praises and adoration be to Allah who made it possible for us to navigate through this lengthy term despite all odds. We want to thank all parents for their perseverance and cooperation which helped us greatly to come this far. The efforts of the IIRO and OSSAISA as well as other stakeholders in seeing that the school is well catered for are highly appreciated.

Review of the Outgoing Semester: The second semester 2018/2019 which spanned through 24th August 2019, commenced on 30th March 2019. Alhamdulillah the semester has successfully come to an end. However, despite some numerous hiccoughs, here are some areas we made some marks:

1. Staff Capacity Building: for more effective teaching and learning we embarked on in house training of our teachers/staffs in various areas we found them wanting and needed urgent attention.

2. PTA General Meeting: The parents Teachers Association general meeting for The semester was held on 23rd March, 2019. Salient issues were raised and agreement reached between Parents and School Management. This meeting was timely as it went a long way to correct some wrong impressions created between parents and school management.

3. Commencement of Lessons: Lessons commenced in earnest in all classes on the first day of resumption.

4. Ramadhaan Fast/Eids Celebration: The 1400AH Ramadhan fast was successfully observed by all students with much happiness except those genuinely exempted from fasting. At the end of the fasting period,

the IIRO sent a cow to Centre for students celebration of the eid. In a related development, the management's quest to make up for the time lost due to the general election last semester led to the students also celebrating Eidul-Adhaa in school. In order to make them feel at home, the IIRO equally sent a total of seven cows to Centre and environs four of which were specifically used to cook for students.

5. Public Holiday: The children's Day and Democracy Day holidays were duly observed during the session. The former was marked with a debate by students why the latter witnessed a symposium.

6. Student Leadership Training: Due to the poor attitude of school functionaries as witnessed by the management, the school embarked on a four-day intensive leadership training for the new prefects. Some of the trainings were conducted within the school premises, while two days out of the four earmarked for it were carried out outside the school. The student leaders were full of appreciation.

7. Sport Week: For the first time in the history of Centre, a week was devoted to sporting activities. Students competed in football, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, handball, badminton and a host of others. We look forward to expanding it next year or converting it to annual inter house sports competition. All stake-holders are cordially invited to partner with us to achieve greater output.

8. Entrance Examination: The 2019/2020 entrance examination was conducted on 7th July 2019 within the

school premises. Out of the over 120 candidates that sat for the examination, less than twenty were successful and granted admission. Due to this dismal performance by most of the candidates, the school rescheduled a supplementary entrance examination on 18th August 2019 to make up for a short fall. Consequently, the school is organizing One-year Remedial Programme, which will serve as a feeder to JSS One.

9. School Exam: End of semester examination started on the 28th July 2019 and lasted for about two weeks. At the end of the semester, all students were issued with all their answer scripts and results for parents' perusal and record keeping.

10. Musabaqah: The semester equally witnessed a very interesting Quranic competition in about five different categories namely:- two hizb category, five hizb category, ten hizb category, twenty hizb category and sixty hizb category. This is going to be an annual event in memory of one of the old students philanthropist of the school, Musa Daniel Okpechukwu (May Allah have mercy on his soul).

11. Speech and Prize Giving: The 2018/2019 speech prize giving ceremony was conducted on Saturday, 24th August 2019. Speeches, dramas and presentations of various kinds including awards and prizes to deserving students and staff were witnessed in the occasion.

Matters Arising from Outgoing Semester:

➤ **Dress Code:** We wish to reiterate that the school dress code of school uniform during school hours, hostel wears after school and white jallabia on Fridays must strictly be adhered to by all students. Parents should ensure that their children/wards are provided with these wears by the school for uniformity. ANY UNIFORM NOT SEWN BY THE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

➤ **Use of Phones and ATM Cards:**

Students are prohibited from being in possession of cell phones and ATM Cards

while in the school. We discovered to our dismay that this rule was flouted in the out-going semester. Please note that strict measures will be taken against any defaulter henceforth. Other contraband items include: possession of cash of whatever kind and food items such as instant noodles, spaghetti noodles, seasoning, tomato paste, etc.

➤ **Lateness in Resumption:** We observed that students were still in the habit of resuming late to school. Stringent measures will be taken against any student who reports back after the resumption date.

Major Achievement:

Below is a highlight of major achievement within the term:

- ❖ We were able to carry out all activities as planned contained on our term plan without any major alteration
- ❖ Water Ratification: Alhamdulillah, the persistence of water crises in Centre has been laid to rest what the acquisition and installation of a solar powered water pump and construction of a forty-foot-high 24,000 liters capacity overhead tanks. Consequently, portable drinking water was reticulated throughout the entire Centre, and as well extended to the host community.
- ❖ We equally took delivery of white boards for all our classrooms including Laboratories, staff room and UBEC Multipurpose Hall. This has gone a long way to put a stop to the chalk hazards in the school.
- ❖ Donation of E-pads: A total of one hundred pieces of E-pads installed what relevant educational materials were donated to Centre by the Nigerian Communication Commission (NCC). This is geared towards boosting teaching and learning as well as bring learners abreast with current technological trends in learning.
- ❖ Donation of Computers: Within the term, the school received a donation of three (3) laptops and four (4) desktops. The Old Students Association of the school facilitated all donations including the solar powered water pump.
- ❖ Health Status: Generally, there was a remarkable improvement on the students'

health. We will not rest until we attain perfection in shaa Allah.

- ❖ **Food Quality:** We want to emphatically state that the food quality and quantity have greatly improved from what it used to be. There is always room for improvement.
- ❖ **Student Discipline and Moral Uprightness:** We are glad to report that there has been a tremendous positive change in student's character and moral uprightness May Allah continue to protect our wards and establish their feet more firmly on the right path.
- ❖ **Renovations:** The dining hall, kitchen senior hostel and part of the toilet were renovated and given a befitting face lift as the first phase of the general renovation penciled down by the new management of the school. The rest would be completed as soon as funds are made available for them.
- ❖ **The Visit of the IIRO Delegation:** A representative of the Educational Department, International Islamic Relief Organization (IIRO) Jeddah, Saudi Arabia in company of the Regional Director IIRO Nigerian Regional Office, Kaduna and other top ranking officers of the organization paid a working visit to the Centre on the 15th of July, 2019 they were highly impressed with what they saw and made several pronouncements amongst which are:
 - I. That they would give a general face-lift to the whole structures in Centre.
 - II. More facilities would be made available to the school, such as six model laboratories including ICT Room, Language Laboratory, etc.

Medical Tests:

Students are required to carry out the following laboratory tests and submit the results to the school clinic on resumption: Widal, PCV, Hp.B and MP. Failure to carry out the tests would attract a sum of three thousand naira only to enable the school arrange for the tests.

Fees Payment:

The school wishes to appreciate our dear parents for the payment of their ward(s)' school fees during this period of economic downturn. Although the school faced a lot of challenges from parents with regards to the payment of school fees especially for the first term, of which more than 30% of the fees were not paid, which later led to the strict measure taken by the

management. Be informed also that any student with an outstanding debt will not be allowed into the school premises next term.

Next semester payment system: Parents are by this letter notified that all payments are to be done online through e-payment or paying directly into our bank accounts and then using the teller to update the financial status online. Parents are advised to check the website www.ica.com.ng for update on how to make payment and do registration. Frequent updates will be made on various fees, the steps for paying and available options of payment.

1. Payment of N50,000 feeding fees is strictly made into the following school account:

Name: School of Arabic and Islamic Studies (old student)

Account Number: 1016147110

Bank: Zenith Bank

2. Payment of other fees such as fees for books, external exams, uniform, transport, pocket money, etc is to be made into the following school account:

Name: Islamic Centre Anofia Maintenance

Account Number: 1016554462

Bank: Zenith Bank.

3. While the tuition fee of N25,000 is to be paid into the following account:

Name: IIRO School of Arabic and Islamic Studies

Account Number: 0029366571

Bank: Stanbic Bank.

Resumption Date:

Students' arrival to school for the 1st Semester of 2019/2020 Academic Session is on or before Saturday, 12 October 2019. Late arrival will not be tolerated.

Student Needs:

On resumption, every student is expected to pay #1,000 for bar-coded ID card and #1,000 for bedspread.

Signed.

Isa Friday Okonkwo

For the Management.

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