

September 29, 2009

Dear and Respected Parent/Guardian,

A fruitful term of our school comes to an end in a couple of days! At the outset let me thank you for all the support, good wishes and encouragement extended by you to us in our endeavors and initiatives. In particular your appreciation of our efforts to streamline and improve the discipline of the school has been particularly encouraging and heartening to us. Thank you very much for this!

A. Some highlights of the term

- *Education Seminar for Parents:* Sensing the need for a better and common understanding about education OIS had arranged seminar on education for parents on two occasions for the parents of the junior and senior school students.
- *Mathematics Exposition:* Mathematics expositions were arranged for the junior school and senior school with projects, models, charts, puzzles, games and quizzes designed appropriately for these age groups.
- *Introduction to ISC-I (Class XI) & IIT / AIEEE Coaching:* ISC with a very flexible subject choice was introduced in Science, Humanities and Commerce streams. An additional tutoring facility for IIT-CET / AIEEE / BIT-AT / MHCET was also been introduced this year in collaboration with a renowned institute of Nashik.
- *Academic level based vertical grouping:* To make the academic program more child centric the children of different class groups have been grouped together based on their academic levels. The classes and inputs are being provided based on this finely tuned grouping. Please refer to our letter dated 19.07.09 on this subject.
- *Improved parental support to the school:* The response of our parents in minimizing the junk food sent with their children has reduced considerably-please refer to our letter dated July 27, 2009, on the subject. We are thankful to our respected parents for this.
- *GYI Exchange Program:* A week long GYI exchange program was arranged at OIS comprising of around 30 students and 8 teachers from more than five countries participated. Our senior school students participated in the program and got a truly international exposure of a unique kind.
- *School Newsletter:* The second issue of our school newsletter was brought out on our independence day and it was sent to you. Henceforth, two newsletters will be brought out every year.
- *School Website:* Our website is being updated on a more regular basis and we would urge you to please visit the same and provide us your feedback on the same.
- *Adventure Camp:* A week to ten day adventure camp has been organized for all the children of the school covering about 30 types of activities, designed age wise and related to the psycho-motor development of the children. Some of the day students have not participated in the camp and that is a great loss for the children. Such an exposure is an integral and very important part of the educational program of our school.
- *Improved Parent-School interface:* We have been communicating some essential matters with parents on a more regular basis so that a collaborative and

coordinated approach is adopted for guiding children. We are happy that some parents have been responding to our communication in an equally heartening manner! To such parents we are thankful and would like to urge that the others may please make it a point to read the letters carefully and respond to them as required and requested by the school. It is essential that we work together closely. There have been instances of parents inadvertently abetting the children to violate the norms of the school. We have been writing to such parents separately. It may please be noted that parents who indulge in violation of the norms of the school will be short listed and appropriate steps will be taken by the school, including eventually their being blacklisted by the school. We cannot allow the overall school culture to degenerate due to the callous or arrogant attitude of some parents.

- *Field visits, outdoor trips:* School organizes field/outdoor trips for different levels of students to aid the educational processes as required.

B. Concerns and Challenges

Usage of English Language: Some of our students are coming from a vernacular background and the requisite resolve not to resort to their familiar language does not come to the fore! The school has been insisting on usage of English for all conversations in the school. We request you to please support us in this endeavor by exposing the children to English speaking even during the holidays and emphasizing on the need for this.

Usage of foul language: Some of our children use foul and uncouth language almost involuntarily! It will be very good if we could prevent their exposure to adults who use improper language. We are working on this issue seriously

while the children are in school. We shall be grateful if you could provide as much exposure to the children to people who speak English to the extent it is feasible for you.

Late return after break/vacation: Some children report back to school late and this is unacceptable to us, except in cases where prior permission has been taken due to any exceptional situations. Please refer to our letter dated August 16, 2009, on the subject. We will discontinue the practice of having a short break from the next term so that there is academic continuity and focus throughout the session.

Improper behavior of some children: Some of the children are quite crude and rough in their behavior and attitude towards the gentler ones. We are working with such children but in case their response is not encouraging we will be resorting to disciplinary steps in a phased manner, including expulsion if required. Please refer to our letter dated July 25, 2009 on this subject.

Plagiarism and overall academic attitude: Some of our children lack the rigorous academic attitude and that is disabling others from forging ahead. We are working on this issue and would like to improve the overall academic standard of the school in the immediate future.

C. Reminders

Spectacles: At least three sets should be available with

the children requiring them. The eye check report with details of the power of the spectacles should be sent to us.

Disallowed items: Cash, electronic items or other expensive items should not be sent with children or left with them for any reason whatsoever. In case such a necessity is there, the same can be kept with our school office. This is a grave violation and could result in the parent and child to be black listed with appropriate consequences.

Adherence to timings: Strict adherence to telephone call and visit schedule is expected. We have installed few extra telephone lines to ease the call facility and also the line will be direct to the extension saving time taken to get connected. The telephone call timings will be reworked and informed to you when you visit to drop your children after vacation. The call timings will be on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings.

Short break: The practice of short break will be discontinued from next term. Please refer to our letter dated August 16, 2009.

D. Requests

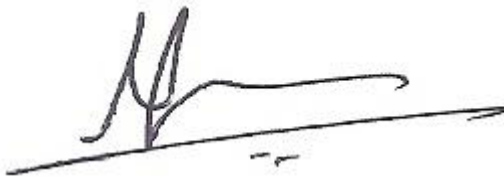
Help in admissions: We solicit your help in getting us some 'good' students so that the overall ambience of the school improves and our present students also stand to gain. We are preparing a CD of our school so that you will be able to play it to any of your friends or relatives desirous of getting their children into our school.

Development of good taste: Please help us in developing a taste for good books in our students or exposing them to educationally rich institutes like IIT etc. if possible so that they set up high standards for themselves. Please be careful about what kind of exposure you provide to them during the vacations.

I request you to please peruse this letter carefully and reply to us expressing your views, suggestions or feedback for improvement of our school and also for providing better educational inputs to our children.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sundar Gandikota', written over a horizontal line.

(Sundar Gandikota)
Principal