



INFANT JESUS ACADEMY

CATHOLIC CO-EDUCATIONAL DAY & BOARDING SCHOOL

OLD ANWAI ROAD,
OPPOSITE GOVT. HOUSE,
P.O.BOX 148, ASABA,
DELTA STATE.

Email: enquiries@jaasaba.com
Website: www.ijaasaba.com

TERMLY NEWSLETTER

TERM 3 2021/2022



“Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpeh and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.” (1 Samuel 7:12)

What a pleasure it was to welcome so many parents, carers, friends and family onto the school site for our Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, 10 July 2022. Without doubt, this coming together of our school community was a fitting way to mark our collective 'Ebenezer' testimony. Not only was it our opportunity to celebrate those of our learners who were receiving their First Communion, but it was also a moment in which we recognized the faithfulness of God, whose wisdom we have sought in leading the learning of our young people over the now-closing academic year.

Indubitably, this has been an incredibly productive year and our progress through Terms 1 and 2 is well documented in the previous two newsletters. Term 3 – the term now ending – has been just as dynamic. Some of the highlights have included:

JAMB – In May, learners in Year 12 sat both their JAMB mocks and their actual JAMB examinations. Following the publication of the mock results, Directors of Learning were asked to lead their teachers in staging targeted,

specific and personalized support to all learners, based on their data-driven analysis of individual learning needs. The impact of this intervention was undeniable: each learner was able to improve by at least 20% in the actual examinations. Some even improved by more than 50%. We are delighted, also, by the fact that 100% of learners achieved a total JAMB score of 180, with 46.7% achieving a score of over 250. Not only did learners improve on their mock results, but they also improved upon last year's JAMB results, which stood at 91.3% (180+) and 4% (250+). It is beyond dispute that these are some fantastic outcomes – outcomes that speak clearly of what happens when learners work hard to achieve and when teachers are able to focus on their core professional purpose, without distraction. As Principal, I am proud of our young people, and of the staff who have worked so hard to secure these improvements. I am excited, also, by the way parents and carers have embraced and supported the various whole-school changes by which these improvements have been driven.

Staff appraisal – 16 May saw Staff Appraisals, originally opened at the beginning of the academic year, now revisited with 'mid-term' reviews. Whilst the appraisal and mid-term review cycle will be fully rolled out to all staff in the forthcoming year, the staff experiencing it this year have found it to be both supportive and appropriately challenging in driving the agenda of school improvement. Our progress has been good, but we are not prepared to rest on our laurels. Indeed, these processes have been of inestimable value to us in developing a growth mindset, in which improvement is a continuous journey rather than a destination.

Parent Voice – On Monday 30 May, parents and carers were invited to take part in the final Parent Voice Forum for the academic year. The agenda of the meeting was uncomplicated: participants were invited to share their views on what had gone well over the year and to describe how they felt IJA might improve further still. Parents and carers were particularly pleased with our holistic approach to nurturing our learners and with the fact that we are now having data-driven conversations with them about not just progress and achievement, but also personal conduct and

attitudes to learning. We shall certainly look to develop this further in the coming academic year.

Assistant Principal – In June, following two days of selection and interview activities, we were very pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Gloria UGWUOGO as Assistant Principal. For the past academic year, Mrs Gloria has served on our Extended Leadership Team as Associate Assistant Principal. Her promotion to Assistant Principal means she will now join our Senior Leadership Team, presently consisting of myself, the Vice Principal, the Assistant Principal (Pastoral), the Business Manager and the Operations Manager. Her appointment will come into effect on 1 August 2022; and her area of responsibility as Assistant Principal will be Learning & Teaching.

Tutorials – On 16 June 2022, at 7:30am, I was privileged to walk from classroom to classroom and see all learners in Years 7, 8, 10 and 11 having tutorials with their Tutors. Every single child still on site was looking at their latest school reports and was discussing, with their Tutor, their progress in English, Maths, Science and at least one subject of their choosing. Each learner was then supported by their Tutor in setting targets for improvement in these subjects – targets to which learners were expected to work right up until the end of the academic year. It was truly marvellous to see our young people benefiting from this strategic care, guidance and support, made possible through the new pastoral system.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Fees for learners in Years 9 and 12

Fees for these learners must be paid in two installments, by no later than Term 2.

These fees (exclusive of textbook fees) are:

	TERM 1 ₦	TERM 2 ₦
Year 9	493,500	493,500
Year 12	493,500	493,500

Additionally, these learners are to pay their external examination and other fees before the end of Term 1 to enable prompt registration for the examinations.

The table below shows the cost of external examinations for which registration is required:

S/N	Description	Year 9 (₦)	Year 12 (₦)
1	Delta State BECE, NECO BECE	70,000	-
2	NECO SSCE & WASSCE	-	110,000
3	JAMB	-	45,000
4	Extension Classes	30,000	40,000
5	Graduation fees	-	50,000
	SUB-TOTAL	100,000	245,000
6	Cambridge Checkpoint	200,000	
7	Cambridge IGCSE (5 subjects minimum) and ₦100,000 for additional subjects		500,000
	GRAND -TOTAL	300,000	745,000

Pocket Money Balances

Parents and carers should confirm their child(ren)'s pocket money balances with the Business & Finance Department before school resumes so that any deficit balances can be cleared. We do not wish to send learners home for the non-payment of school fees or other balances, as this will be disruptive to their learning. It is imperative, therefore, that this matter is addressed within the timescales outlined and in the ways advised.

Shuttle bus service for day learners

Parents and carers who wish to have the IJA school bus pick up and drop off their child(ren) daily can subscribe to our shuttle bus service at a termly rate of N40,000, subject to distance and/or other relevant factors. This sum should be paid by 30 September 2022.

School fees

School fees assist us in the general running of the school, in maintenance and in carrying out all essential repairs before and during the term.

For returning learners in the boarding school, as well as learners in the day school (Year 8), the breakdown for Term 1 school fees is as follows:

Boarding Learners	Returning Learners ₦	Day School Year 8	Returning Learners ₦
Tuition/Boarding	280,000	Tuition	115,000
Medical	9,000		
Maintenance	20,000	Maintenance	10,000
Miscellaneous	18,000	Miscellaneous	17,000
ICT fees	10,000	ICT fees	10,000
End of year party	10,000	End of year party	10,000
Total	347,000	Total	162,000

PLEASE NOTE: The breakdown above does not include the cost of books which is N75,000.

It is also now mandatory that any parent requesting concessions makes their request **at least two (2) weeks** before resumption by completing the Application for Concessional School Fees through this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/MFReezPGiE>. If approved by the governing body, these parents will be required to bring a post-dated cheque for the balance upon resumption which will be presented at the bank upon expiration of the concession window. Also, you will be required to sign an undertaking at the Business & Finance Department before collecting clearance. This is a requirement for admission into the school for parents who are unable to pay their fees in full before resumption.

Please note that concession applications for Term 1 close on Wednesday 31 August 2022, at 6:00pm. This is to enable us to process the applications received and give feedback to parents before resumption. We are unable to process any request not made in this way; and we are likewise unable to process any requests for Term 1 after this date.

Study Support Periods – In the week beginning Monday 4 July, we trialled a new system of whole-school timetabling designed to eliminate the phenomenon of 'free periods' sometimes occurring in Years 10 to 12. We are glad to note that the trial has been successful! The new system means that learners in these year groups are always either in a formal lesson or in a 'study support' period, revising or studying in an assigned classroom, under the guidance of an assigned teacher. As a learning-centred school, we do not support the idea of learners having 'free periods' during the teaching day; and we are very pleased about this way of eliminating them in the new timetable for 2022/23.

UNESCO Observatory World Institute of Youth Art – On Friday 8 July 2022, I had the exciting privilege of hearing about the recognition our young people have received at the UNESCO Observatory's World Institute of Youth Art. This is a major achievement, placing the artistic skills of IJA learners on display, among entries received from across the world. We are very proud of Precious ANIAKOR (Year 12), Kayla CHIKA (Year 7), Smile EFETIMOR (Year 10) and Yirioritse OLUHEH-MATIMI (Year 12); and we congratulate them on their achievement!

Graduation – It is impossible for any well-meaning adult to watch the young person(s) into whom they have invested so much step out into their future without feeling a rightful sense of pride. This is a feeling in which we shared with parents, carers, family and loved ones as we watched Year 12 'fly the nest' of their academic alma mater on Saturday 16 July. We wish each graduating learner the very best, as they take hold of everything life has to offer them.



Method of payment

Fees and balances can be paid by any of the following methods:

Bank draft
Bank transfer
Cash deposit at the bank
Standing order

The school's bank details are:

School Fees:

Account Name: Infant Jesus Academy Ltd.
Account Number: 000-6043296
Bank Name: Abbey Mortgage Bank Plc.

Uniform Fees:

Account Name: Madonna Ashib Comm. Ent.
Account Number: 0728964895
Bank Name: Access Bank

Book Fees:

Account Name: Madonna Ashib Comm. Ent.
Account Number: 0728892916
Bank Name: Access Bank

Evidence of Payment

Evidence of payment must be presented to the Business Manager, Mr OGUNSUYI Chukuka, before receipts can be issued. Admissible evidence includes tellers, alert notifications, and any other evidence providing confirmation that is verifiable with the bank. Parents and carers wishing to present these electronically may do so, by emailing

the Business Manager at c.ogunsuyi@ijaasaba.com, or via Whatsapp on 08134190778. Parents and carers are reminded that presenting cheques that cannot be paid due to insufficient funds is a crime attracting stiff legal penalties.

Lunchtime arrangements

Lunchtime arrangements are the same for day and boarding learners. However, lunch is not included in the fees paid for day learners and is available, at additional cost, upon request by parents and carers.

Uniforms and Books

Learners entering Years 7 and 10 are expected to receive new school uniforms. Parents and carers with children joining these year groups are therefore required to make payment for the respective uniforms.

We further ask that parents and carers with children who have not yet been measured for school uniform either bring their child(ren) to school (for those living in or around Asaba), or send us the relevant measurements, based on the measurement template available by request to admin@ijaasaba.com, or by calling the Business Manager on 08134190778 or the school office on 08091407991.

Please note that the uniform for junior boys has now been revised. Commencing in September 2022, junior boys will be issued with trousers to wear with their school uniform and ceremonial wear rather than shorts. Shorts will eventually be phased out but trousers are not compulsory for existing junior boys as at now. However, parents of these learners are welcome to buy trousers if they wish.

Parents and carers are also asked to pay for books to assist us in early stocking of the bookshop for learners to collect upon returning to school in September.

PASTORAL & CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Personal conduct

As a school we now have a Behaviour for Learning (BfL) Policy that has been helping to raise standards in personal conduct across the school. Since its introduction, we have celebrated some learners who have improved their personal conduct and earned the points required for a prize. Learners have included; Chisimdi EMEKWE, Marcia DEKPE, Ikechukwu UNOGU, Goodluck OBIELUM, Kamsi ANYADO, Jessica OKONYE, Ifelunwa Tunnim-EKE, Jason ISHOLA, Jessica EJIOFOR, Miracle CHUKWUEKWU, Siyonna UMEH and Martin SEMITEJE. The policy is available to view at our website: www.ijaasaba.com

March past

The last Children's Day, 27 May 2022, saw our learners emerge in first position at the march past competition organized by Delta State. Well done to all learners who took part in this wonderful event!

Extra lessons

Parents and carers intending to register their child(ren) for extra lessons within the coming term can pay the sum of **N15,000 per subject** into the school accounts, and thereafter inform the Business Manager about the payment(s), made for easy and prompt reconciliation. Once payment is made, parents and carers are also asked to notify the Vice Principal, Mr ACHEKA Michael. This to ensure that your child is assigned the appropriate subject teacher and that

this happens on time. Mr ACHEKA can be contacted on **08146065626**, or by email at m.acheka@ijaasaba.com, with your child's name and the subject(s) requested.

Parents and carers are advised to use school reports to help them identify subjects in which any extra lessons may be needed.

Holiday assignments

To be attached to the Term 3 reports are sets of take-home assignments that have been designed to engage learners during the holiday period. Parents and carers are encouraged to support their child(ren) in ensuring these assignments are given the necessary attention. Assignments form part of our continuous assessment grading system. They are to be completed at home and submitted upon resumption to the various subject teachers.



External examinations

Parents and carers of the incoming Years 9 and 12 should please note the following:

- Year 9 learners are expected to submit their Primary 6 certificates or broadsheets where their names appeared upon resumption. Similarly, Year 12 learners who joined us mid-stream (in Years 10 and 11) should submit to us the broadsheet of the Year 9 BECE result from their old school.
- For all IGCSE and Checkpoint examinations, learners are expected to submit the data page of their international passport or their National Identification Number slip.
- Cambridge Checkpoint examinations are compulsory for all Year 9 learners. Please contact the Business Manager for details of registration fees and enrollment procedures.

Please also note that:

- The West African Examination Council (WAEC) has made the NIN a prerequisite for WAEC examination registration. In view of this, parents and carers must ensure their child(ren) register(s) for their NIN especially learners of the incoming Years 11 and 12. This is aimed at ensuring we avoid any problems during the registration of learners for external examinations.
- The Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB) have made the NIN a prerequisite for Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination. The system allows the registration of minors provided there is a NIN from the parent or guardian to evidence their consent. Parents and carers are therefore asked to seize this long holiday to register their child(ren).

Learners must have an active registered phone number for the generation of the profile code for their JAMB registration. Year 12 are therefore allowed to come to school with a **non-smart phone with a registered SIM card** (irrespective of the network) for the purpose of generating the profile code required for the registration. The SIM card should be recharged with the sum N500 naira. The phones must be submitted to the Vice Principal, Mr ACHEKA Michael, upon resumption in September.

You are welcome to contact Mr ACHEKA on **0814606562**, or by email at m.acheka@ijaasaba.com, for further clarification.

Textbooks and notebooks

Cambridge Checkpoint is part of the IJA curriculum, and it is taught as a discrete subject in the Lower Secondary School. It is therefore compulsory for all learners in Years 7 to 9 to have the required textbooks and materials. This includes the IJA branded notebooks, which are compulsory for all learners. Parents and carers are to re-purchase notebooks from the school shop, as the need arises, through the money deposited in their child(ren)'s pocket money account. Please contact the Business Manager, Mr OGUNSUYI Chukuka, for a pocket money account update.

Key dates and upcoming events

- Sunday 11 September 2022 and Monday 12 September 2022 – All Day and Boarding learners resume for Term 1 of the new academic year (2022/2023).
- Sunday 2 October 2022 – Open day (Day and Boarding)
- Saturday 22 October 2022 to Saturday 29 October 2022 – Mid-term break.
- Sunday 30 October 2022 and Monday 31 October 2022 – Day and Boarding learners return from Mid-term break.
- Sunday 20 November 2022 – Visiting Day (Day and Boarding)
- Friday 9 December 2022 and Saturday 10 December 2022 – Term 1 holiday begins for Day and Boarding learners.
- Sunday 8 January 2023 and Monday 9 January 2023 – Day and Boarding learners resume for Term 2 of the new academic year (2022/2023).

IN CLOSING

As we bring this academic year to an end, I am reminded of the words of Solomon in Proverbs 19:21. There, we are counselled that, whilst there are “many . . . plans in a person's heart . . . it is the Lord's purpose that prevails”. I am sure you, your child(ren) and your families will have made many plans for this long vacation. Indeed, I am sure we all have! We also have many plans – particularly as a school leadership – for how we will continue adding value to your child(ren)'s school experience when we return in September. It is right that we have such plans. However, in our planning, it is important that we discern and pursue the Lord's purpose: in doing so, we cannot fail. It is the pursuit of His purpose that attracts His help; and it is with this help that, in 12 months' time, when we close the next academic year, we will again be able to testify, “Ebenezer – hitherto hath the Lord helped us!”

I certainly look forward to receiving you and our learners again, in September, upon our return to school. The academic year ahead promises to be an exciting one, full of dynamic learning and new developments that further align us with international best practice.

It simply remains for me to greet all our parents and carers with grace and peace and to thank you sincerely for the support you have given across this academic year.

Do have a lovely break.

Kind regards



The Most Revd

Dr Otis V. WILKS CMgr FCMI, FCCT
Principal

