New Horizons College, Minna.

**End of Second Term (2019 / 2020) Newsletter**

**Saturday 21st March, 2020 (26th Rajab 1441 AH)**

*If you don’t like something change it. If you can’t change it, change your attitude – Maya Angelou*

*“Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are cetain to miss the future – John F. Kennedy.*

Assalamu alaykum wa rahmatullah wa Barakatuh.

Dear parents,

These are indeed trying times for the whole of humankind. Most of us have been guilty of putting our jobs, business, socialization, other interest above things which matter most, such as family, health, and faith, using the excuse that there is no time. Sadly, we are all now made to realize that these things we held dear as the most important things in our lives are not as important when our very existence is threatened.

Our prayer is that , we will all use the forced holiday period as a time for retrospection, to realign our priorities in life and put our faith first above any material consideration. May Allah protect us all and see us through this trial that He has thrust upon humanity.

Below are the highlights of this report:

1. Academic Activities

2. Co-curricular Activities

3. Islamiyyah Report

4. JAMB 2020 Result

5. GCE 2020 Result

6. SSS 3 students / Postponement of WAEC

7. E-classroom if school fails to resume in April

8. School lines and calling times

9. Students Behavioural Management System

10. Progress Report from ICT External Trainers

11. Second term results.

1. ***Academic Activities:***

One of our resolutions this term was to in shaa Allah do our best to update parents about the academic progress of their children, especially those struggling to cope academically. Additionally, we resolved to ensure teachers carry all students along during lessons.

Other initiatives and activities have included:

* Work in progress with science teachers on giving real life context and application to theoretical concepts.
* Employment of intervention teachers in Mathematics and English Language and intensification of extra support lessons for students with academic challenges.
* Continuation of Saturday Mathematics clinic; during the clinic, topics that have been taught are reviewed and students learning consolidated through repeated practice.
* Change of start of school day on Friday for the purpose of continuous professional development and training for our teachers
* Weekly review of students’ academic performance on a departmental basis
* Enrolment of 9 teachers and staff for online courses with Harvard Post Graduate School of Education, Cambridge IGCSE online Face – to – face training for another set of 9 staff.
* Centralized test was conducted. 21 students made the Principal’s Honour List, while 16 students qualified for the commendation list. To qualify, a student must score 28/30 in at least 7 subjects for JSS students, while an SS student has to score 18/20 in a minimum of 7 subjects. For commendation, a JSS student must score 28/30 in at least 6 subjects while an SS student must score 18/20 in 6 subjects.
* Career choice and placement counseling for selected JSS 3 students.
* Post Centralized Test counseling done for certain students

2. ***Co – curricular Activities:***

The school has not relented in ensuring there is more to life than academics alone in NHC. As a result, we have continued to expose our students to richer experiences beyond academics.

Below are some of such activities this term:

* Weekend training for Future Foundation club members on snacks making, chicken popcorn, peanuts and smocking Canadian pillow.
* Making of hand sanitizers by science department and vocational department.
* First and third positions in painting during the Hadiza Ibrahim Aliyu Schools Festival HIASFEST). Other categories of the competition included: painting, story writing, poetry, craft making etc. The school also placed third in spoken word poetry and short story writing. Our students clinched the prize for the best behaved school.
* Press club members went on an excursion to Prestige FM Minna.
* Public Speaking club organised training for its club members and video recording of members presentation.
* Visit of Builders club to furniture making shop and crafting of furniture pieces.
* Career Talk: The theme was “Entrepreneurship- starting your own business. 3 ex-students of the school were invited to share their experiences on establishing their own businesses and of the day – to – day running of their businesses.
* Training sessions on media broadcasting for selected members of Press club at Prestige FM. It also included hosting a Live talk show in the hostel via the public address system.
* Weekend hostel hang-out with students in the hostel by Students’ Affairs Office.
* Big Life Adventure session held with JSS 1 – 3 students during weekends.
* Personal Development and Leadership Training for SS 1 – 3 held at different times during the term.
* Inter House Sports Day held. Blue house emerged the victorious house.
* Agricultural science students were involved in dry-season farming of vegetables, using mobile vegetable beds and rearing of a batch of 70 chickens for sale to NHC staff.

3. ***Islamiyyah Report***:

Below are some of the activities and programs of the Islamiyyah section during the term:

* The Mallams were trained in ‘Active Learning and Teaching’ during an internal mini-workshop organized for them
* First and second centralized tests were conducted for JSS 1 – SS 2 students
* Day students were incorporated into the College’s Islamiyyah test and examination system.
* Introduction of unified and harmonized test/exam on tajweed for intermediate and tahfeez students
* Introduction of harmonized lesson/note for all intermediate and tahfeez levels of our islamiyyah system; this means that students of these two levels have unified note content.

4. ***JAMB 2020 Result:***

Alhamdulillah, the result of the JAMB examination for the current class of 2020 has been released and the performance of our students was highly commendable. Below is a table of the result:

**2020 JAMB RESULT ANALYSIS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***JAMB Score / Points*** | ***Number of Students*** | ***Percentage*** |
| 150 – 199 | 1 | 1.35% |
| 200 – 249 | 33 | 44.60% |
| 250 – 299 | 36 | 48.64% |
| 300 – 350 | 2 | 2.70% |
| Awaiting | 2 | 2.70% |
| **TOTAL** | **74** | **100%** |

Alhamdulillah, with this result, it means all our students will be called for Post-JAMB exam at their universities of choice.

5. ***GCE 2020 Result:***

Alhamdulillah, the result for the GCE 2020 has been released. We give thanks to Allah for this effort, as the GCE is an exam we use to build their confidence in preparation for WAEC. There are many excellent grades in the result, but there are also areas for improvement which in shaa Allah will be worked on before WAEC proper.

**2020 G.C.E RESULT ANALYSIS**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subjects | Dist. | Credit | Pass | Fail | Pending | No of  Students |
| English | 37 | 34 | 3 | - | - | 74 |
| Maths | 25 | 24 | 16 | 9 | - | 74 |
| Biology | 3 | 13 | 8 | - | - | 24 |
| I. R. S. | 42 | 24 | 8 | - | - | 74 |
| Geo. | 10 | 13 | 4 | - | - | 27 |
| Economics | 12 | 13 | 8 | 1 | - | 34 |
| Physics | 10 | 23 | 23 | 1 | - | 57 |
| Chemistry | 24 | 26 | 3 | - | - | 53 |
| Lit-in-English | - | 4 | 10 | 1 | - | 15 |
| Agric Science | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | 3 |
| Tech. Drawing | 9 | 3 | - | - | - | 12 |
| Further Maths | 4 | 4 | 3 | - | - | 11 |
| Financial Acct. | 2 | 1 | - | - | - | 3 |
| Civic Education | 28 | 15 | 7 | - | 1 | 51 |
| Total | 208 | 198 | 91 | 12 | 1 | 512 |

**ANALYSIS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TOTAL** | **PERCENTAGE (%)** |
| NO OF DISTINCTIONS: **208** | 40.00 |
| NO OF CREDITS: **198** | 38.80 |
| PASSES: **91** | 17.80 |
| FAILURES: **12** | 2.40 |
| AWAITING: **1** | 0.20 |
| **GRAND TOTAL** | **100%** |

**Percentage Distinctions and Credit: 87.77%**

1. Students with 5 credits and above including Maths and English = **63.5%**

2. Students with 5 credits and above with either Maths or English = **16.2%**

3. Students with 5 credits and above with neither Maths or English = **0.00%**

4. Students with less than 5 credits without Maths and English =**4.1%**

5. Students with less than 5 credits with either Maths and English =**13.5%**

**6.** Students with less than 5 credits with Maths and English =**2.7%**

6. ***SS 3 students / Postponement of WAEC:***

We have concluded arrangements for SS 3 students to continue with preparation for WAEC.

In shaa Allah, we intend to start lessons with SS 3 students on **Monday 30th March,** through the e-learning platform on our website [www.nhcminna.org](http://www.nhcminna.org). SS 3 students have been given access codes to the e-learning platform. Furthermore, the students will in sha Allah be put into WhatsApp group comprising of Ss3 students and their teachers. We want to appeal to parents to provide the data that will ensure their children participate.

7. ***E-classroom if school fails to resume in April***

We have made plans to ensure that the forced break does not stop learning. As a result, we will in sha’ Allah start online learning as from **Monday 13th April, 2020** (for JSS1-Ss2)

The students have been given access codes to enable them to access the e-learning classroom platform on our website (www.nhcminna.org). It is important that parents provide the necessary support to ensure their children get the full benefit of the learning.

We are providing the number of our IT support staff to assist if any challenge occurs. His name is Idris and his number is **09071675716. Please save this number as NHC IT support.**

8. ***School lines and calling times:***

Alhamdulillah, the school’s MTN line has been reactivated. Parents can henceforth use this line to reach the school on academic matters. The Vice Principal Academics will be in possession of this second line. The number is **09038884000** and calling times will mainly be from 9:00am to 2:00pm during the period of the forced break. Please save this number as NHC Academics.

For other administrative matters, the Registrar will be available to receive calls from the hours of 9:00a, to 2:00pm, on the normal school line **08052662218**

For challenges during the e-learning insha Allah starting on **Monday 13th April**, parents can call **09071675716** for IT related challenges. In addition, parents should please send text messages if they call and get no response.

9. ***Students’ Behavioural Management System (SBMS)***

The school has created an automated behavioural tracking / monitoring and recording system. This system is a points-based system which adds or deducts points based on students’ conduct. Every end of the month, the system gives bonus mark for good conduct to all students if they have no negative entries; if however there is a report of negative conduct, such a student does not get the bonus point.

The records of a child’ conduct is accumulated from the beginning of the session to the end. This records either gradually pushes a child up or down the SBMS ladder.

Student with behavioural challenges are constantly referred to the Students Affairs Office, or other counseling support.

10. ***Progress Report from ICT External Trainers***

As parents have been informed, there are two ICT vendors the school subscribed to in order to augment what the national curriculum lacks. This is to ensure our students are not left behind in this new ICT-driven world. The two ICT vendors are Merrion IT and Steamledge Limited. Steamledge is responsible for ICT training for JSS 1 and JSS 2 students, while Merrion IT is responsible for the ICT training for JSS3 and SS 1 students.

For Steamledge, the JSS 1 students have been having training in fun-electronics and Robotics. At the end of first term they were able to build an electromagnetic field detector, a device which detects electromagnetic fields (can be used to detect the presence of mobile phones in the hostel or an exam hall!) The JSS 1 students continued to learn fun electronics and robotics in second term. There was a project they were working on which was meant to have been concluded in the week after exams; this was however postponed as a result of the sudden closure of schools.

As for JSS 2, the students learnt mobile application development. By the end of first term, the students were able to design and build android applications for showing accomplishments of alumni when they were students using an informational mobile app. They were also able to develop a mobile app that provides useful house tips and guide to users.

One of the plans for 2nd term is to in sha’ Allah get JSS 2 students to be able to create, design and customize multiple screens for mobile apps.

The second ICT vendor called Merrion iT has been able to get JSS 3 students trained in networking fundamentals, where students were able to crimp network cables, set up Local Area Networks, (LAN) and a host of networking activities. This forms the basis of computer to computer communication and access to world wide web (www)

The SS 1 students have been trained on database fundamentals, where they learnt how to create and design data base that powers tables and data on the internet, as well as website design

11. ***Second Term Results:***

The examination result for second term will in sha Allah be available on the school’s website ([www.nhcminna.org](http://www.nhcminna.org)) as from **Monday 30th March, 2020.**

Students have been given access codes which will grant parents access to the results as soon as they click the ‘Parents log in’, which opens up the access code and class fields.

In conclusion, we pray that Allah will look down upon all of us with mercy and protect us and our children through this crisis and bring us back together when this is all over.

Wassalamu alaykum

Mustafa Mas’ood

Principal