

New Horizons College, Minna

End of 2nd Term Newsletter

Friday 29th March 2024 (19th Ramadan 1445AH)

In a Hadith recorded in Sahih Muslim, Shaddaad Ibn Aws (RA) reported the Prophet (pbuh) saying; “Verily, Allah has prescribed Ihsaan (excellence) in everything.”

“Every child deserves a champion—an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connection and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be.” - Rita Pierson

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful;

All Praise is due to Allah, the Most Compassionate and Merciful, Who has granted us the blessing of witnessing yet another sacred month of Ramadan. We pray to Him to accept our acts of ibadah and forgive us our shortcomings.

Dear Respected Parents,

As believers, it is crucial for us during this holy month of Ramadan to continuously seek Allah's forgiveness and maintain unwavering dedication to our prayers, particularly during these challenging times when the economic situation and security challenges are defying all government's effort to remedy the situation. We express our gratitude to Allah for guiding us through this difficult term, and we fervently pray that He continues to bestow His blessings upon us while enveloping us in His protective embrace throughout the remaining period of this session.

Insha Allah, this report will illuminate the activities and events that unfolded during this term.

Below are the highlights of this report:

1. Abridged Calendar for 3rd Term, 2024/2025 session
2. Academic Activities
3. Co-curricular Activities

4. Islamiyyah Report
5. GCE Result 2024
6. Fostering the Spirit of Ramdan at home
7. Students Leaving Luggage: Matters Arising
8. Boarders Feeding Levy
9. Boarders Late Resumption
10. Checking Behavioural Report/Pocket Money/2nd Term result Online
11. Resumption Date/Time for 3rd term, 2023/2024 Session

1. **Abridged Calendar For 3rd term, 2023/2024 Session**

Saturday 30 th March 2024	-	Transferees Entrance Exams
Saturday 20 th April 2024	-	Boarders Resume for 3 rd Term
Saturday 18th April 2024	-	Visiting Day/PTA General Meeting
Monday 20 th May 2024	-	Centralized Test Begins
Saturday 8th June 2024	-	Mid-Term Break for Eid Adha
Saturday 22 nd June 2024	-	Resumption for Eid Break
Thursday 11 th July 2024	-	Promotion Exams Begin
Saturday 27 th July 2024	-	Prize Day/End of Session/Vacation Day
Saturday 14th September 2024	-	Boarders Resume for 2024/2025 Session

2. **Academic Activities**

As the second term comes to a close, we want to take a moment to reflect on the enriching academic experiences your child has had over these past few months. We are thrilled to share with you some of the highlights from this term:

1. **Invitation of Professionals and Artisans:** Throughout the term, we welcomed professionals and artisans to our school to provide real-life experiences across various subjects. From medical doctors sharing insights from the general hospital to

carpenters demonstrating their craft, our students had the opportunity to learn from experts in their fields.

2. **Super Collaborative Teaching:** Our teachers have been collaborating both within and outside their departments, fostering a culture of teamwork and innovation. This collaborative approach has enriched the learning experience for our students, providing diverse perspectives and engaging lessons.
3. **Daily Mathematics Problem Solving:** Mathematics skills are essential, and to strengthen them, our students engaged in daily mathematics problem-solving sessions in all classes. This consistent practice has deepened their understanding and confidence in tackling mathematical challenges.
4. **Peer Teaching:** Selected students took on the role of peer teachers for subjects like mathematics, physics, and chemistry. This peer-to-peer learning not only reinforced understanding but also promoted leadership and communication skills among our students.
5. **Organized Intervention Classes:** After thorough analysis of Continuous Assessment Tests (CT), we organized intervention classes across all subjects to provide targeted support to students who needed additional assistance. These sessions were tailored to address specific learning needs, ensuring that every student had the opportunity to succeed.
6. **Special Center for CT and Examination:** Recognizing that children do not all learn in the same way and neither do they all process what they are taught in the same way, special interventions were made to accommodate such students in the way we teach and assess them. Hence the creation of special centers during the Centralized Test and in the just concluded 2nd term examination.
7. **Weekly Essay Writing:** Our English language classes included weekly essay writing sessions, allowing students to hone their writing skills and express their thoughts effectively. These sessions encouraged creativity and critical thinking, essential skills for success in any field.

8. **Hausa Text Writing:** For our Hausa students, we introduced a program focused on Hausa text writing, empowering them to express themselves in Hausa language in writing poems, essays, etc.
9. **Saturday Mathematics Clinic:** To offer additional support in mathematics, we hosted Saturday mathematics clinics where students could receive personalized guidance and assistance from teachers. These clinics provided an opportunity for targeted remediation and reinforcement of key concepts.
10. **Saturday Science Practical Lessons:** Hands-on learning experiences were provided through Saturday science practical lessons, allowing students to apply theoretical knowledge in a practical setting. These interactive sessions sparked curiosity and fostered a deeper understanding of scientific principles.
11. **Constant Supervision:** We maintained constant supervision of classes to ensure a safe and conducive learning environment for all students. Our dedicated staff members were vigilant in their oversight, prioritizing the well-being and academic progress of every student.
12. **Mentoring of English Language Teachers:** Our commitment to excellence extended to our teaching staff, with ongoing mentoring and support provided to our English language teachers.
13. **The academic adviser organized the following activities:** various individual sessions handling learning difficulties also took place, group sessions tackling academic difficulties, Post Centralized Test academic counseling supports, Career Test and Career Exploration sessions organized, Etc.
14. **2nd Term Exams result:** In sha Allah, the 2nd term examination result will be accessible as from Friday 5th April 2024. Parents are to use their childrens' admission number to access the result using the link: <https://nhcminna.org/resultchecker>. More information on this towards the end of this report.

We are proud of the progress and achievements our students have made this term, and we look forward to building upon these successes in the upcoming term. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education.

3. **Extra-curricular Activities**

We are delighted to share with you a brief overview of the exciting extracurricular activities that have taken place at New Horizons College during the recently concluded second term. As a school committed to nurturing well-rounded individuals, we believe in the importance of providing opportunities beyond the traditional classroom setting. Throughout this term, our students have had the chance to engage in a diverse range of extracurricular pursuits that complement their academic learning and foster personal growth. From sports and arts to community service and leadership development, these activities play a vital role in shaping our students into confident, capable, and socially responsible individuals. We are immensely proud of their participation, enthusiasm, and achievements in these endeavors. Thank you for your continued support in enriching the educational experience of our students. Below are some of the activities:

- Arabic Spelling Bee and Blending Organized by Maizube Foundation
- SS2 Chemistry Students Excursion to SEDI-Minna.
- OPYMPIAD Competition Local Gov't and State levels (awaiting the results for the next round i.e National)
- Science Quiz Across the Classes
- Mathematics Quiz Junior Category
- Aisha B. Lemu Writing Competition Across Classes
- HIAFEST 2024-Drama-3rd
 - Painting-2nd \$3rd
 - Short story writing-1st
 - None fiction writing-1st
- Orphanage visit by the students
- Ramadan Craft Day
- Inter-house Sports Competition won by Green House

- Basketball friendly matches (boys and girls) with Ahmadu Bahago Secondary School, Mawo Secondary School (Junior and senior boys), Jimorota selected team of boys and girls.
- Internal and external football matches; our football team played friendly matches with FOMWAN FC, City Rivals FC. The internal matches were between SS3 boys against SS1 and SS2 boys, and SS3 boys against the rest of the school.
- The student affairs organized counseling sessions with a total of 44 students this term. They also had counseling sessions with over 15 different groups. They had 37 class meetings with various classes this term.
- ASKDIN an interactive question and answer session for understanding Islam and its practices better was anchored by Brother Nurudeen Lemu.
- Mud fishing session organized for SS3 boys and girls.
- Personal Development and Leadership training sessions conducted for all senior classes.
- Hygiene talks held with individual students and groups of students.
- Chaperoned sessions with pen pals from an Islamic school in the United State.
- ETC.

4. **Islamiyyah Report**

All praise be to Allah that we have reached the conclusion of the second term of our Islamiyyah activities. While perfection remains elusive, we are pleased to report significant strides forward thanks to new initiatives and approaches aimed at holistic improvement. It is imperative to remind parents that the essence of our Islamiyyah and educational endeavors at NHC is to guide students towards proficiency in recitation with proper tajweed, exemplary adab, a thorough understanding of Islam, and a strong foundation for Quranic memorization to the best of each individual's ability. Our objective does not solely revolve around the memorization of the entire Quran, as various factors such as time constraints and competing interests, including the National Curriculum and Home-grown curriculum, contribute to our commitment to providing a

comprehensive and well-rounded education. Sister Salatu articulated this clearly during the PTA Online General Meeting. Below, we outline some of the initiatives and activities in which students or Malams have engaged this term.

- Rotation of Malams on Friday to teach tajweed lessons using the white board in each class.
- Tajweed intra class competition was organized at two different occasions in order to enhance the understanding of the content taught in class practically.
- Some students were selected for recording of recitation which would be aired on television and other media houses during this month of Ramadan. This was done at the Islamic Education Trust recording studio.
- Submission of Tracking Records: Tracking records, documenting progress, were submitted on a weekly basis for comprehensive verification.
- Analysis of Second Term Exam Results: Following the Second Term exam, a meticulous analysis of students' results was conducted to identify those requiring intervention classes. This proactive approach began in the first term, will in sha Allah continue in 3rd term.
- A screening was conducted for some SS3 girls who want to transit to Tahfiz category in order to participate in the Walimah planned for 3rd term. The criteria for an SS3 student to participate in the Walima, is such that the student must be in the Tahfiz class. A certain target has been set for SS3 Tahfeez students who want to participate in the Walima.
- An assignment for parents who are interested in their children improving on their recitation and memorization will in sha Allah be sent next week via the usual channels used by the school.

5. GCE Result 2024

We are pleased to share with you our recently released GCE results, which have shown a remarkable improvement across the board compared to the previous year. We are thrilled

to report an increase in the number of distinctions achieved by our students, reflecting their dedication and hard work throughout their academic journey.

Furthermore, we have observed a significant drop in the number of pass and fail grades, indicating a positive trend in overall academic performance. This achievement is a testament to the collective efforts of our students, teachers, and encouragement from parents.

We commend our students for their commitment to excellence and congratulate them on their well-deserved success. We also extend our gratitude to our dedicated teachers for their tireless efforts in guiding and mentoring our students towards academic excellence.

We have swung into action by arranging support for the students who obtained Pass and Failed grades, by hiring a consultant (with a reputable track record of getting students to get a minimum of Credit grade, to work with these students.)

As we celebrate this milestone, let us continue to work together to nurture and support our students in their educational endeavors. Together, we can inspire them to reach even greater heights of achievement in the future.

2024 FEB. GCE RESULT ANALYSIS (CLASS OF 2024)						
Subject	Dist	Credit	Pass	Fail	Outs	Total No.
English	43	14	-	-	-	57
Mathematics	20	20	14	3	-	57
Biology	21	4	-	-	-	25
IRS	30	11	4	-	-	45
Geography	29	4	-	1	2	36
Economics	14	12	1	-	-	27
Physics	30	10	1	-	-	41
Chemistry	20	13	3	-	-	36
Literature	4	4	1	-	-	9
Agric/Science	3	1	-	-	-	4
Further Maths	6	2	1	1	-	10
Fin. Acct	7	2	-	1	-	10
Civic Education	18	19	4	-	-	41
Total	223	168	58	6	-	462
Result Analysis						
Grade	Per. (%)					
Distinction	61.56					
Credit	29.15					
Pass	7.29					
Fail	1.51					
Absent	0.00					
outstanding	0.50					
	100.00					

6. Fostering the spirit of Ramadan at home during the break

As explained by sister Salatu during her report on Sunday when we had the online PTA General Meeting, we have engaged the students in many activities to instill and foster the spirit of Ramadan since we entered this holy month; hence, we are soliciting the assistance of parents to build on this when our children come home for the holiday, by ensuring they do not spend the rest of Ramadan watching movies, playing video games, spending all their time on their phones or on social media.

7. **Students leaving Luggage in School: Matters Arising**

As per the discussions held during the online PTA General Meeting, we have devised a plan to address the challenges encountered regarding the storage of students' luggage during mid-term and end-of-term breaks. Below, you will find the guidelines and penalties associated with non-compliance:

- Masking tapes will be provided for students to tag their luggage, which must be deposited for safekeeping.
- Unlike previous arrangements, hostel staff will not conduct an inventory of the contents of each student's luggage due to time constraints and logistical challenges. Instead, a designated hotel room will be allocated to each class. Once the last member of the class has deposited their luggage, the room will be securely locked. It is important to note that any complaints regarding misplaced property within the luggage will not be entertained, as the act of leaving luggage is done at the owner's risk.
- To mitigate the issue of students failing to claim their luggage promptly, which occurred during previous instances, thereby hindering the timely evacuation of rooms for their owners, the following penalty system will be implemented: For each day that a student's luggage remains unclaimed, a fine of N5,000 will be levied.

We trust that these measures will ensure a smoother and more efficient process for the storage of students' luggage during breaks. Your cooperation and adherence to these guidelines will be greatly appreciated.

8. **Boarders Feeding Levy**

For the benefit of parents who missed the online PTA General Meeting of Sunday 24th March 2024, the school management presented a proposal for boarders feeding levy of N50,000 based on the food crises brought on as a result of removal of fuel subsidy, and

exacerbated by the forex crisis. Short of reducing the number of times students are fed, the school has no choice but to introduce the levy as it has borne the deficit for two terms now. If parents recall, the school fees was fixed at 30% in February 2023, and at the moment general weighted inflation is 31% plus, whereas the food inflation is over 100%!

Alhamdulillah, the parents present during the meeting unanimously agreed that the school should go ahead with the boarders feeding levy of N50,000. Consequently, all boarders are to pay the levy on or before resumption in 3rd term. No boarder will be allowed to enter the hostel without payment of the levy.

9. Boarders' late resumption to school

We are noting with increasing alarm the rising rate of lateness by boarders on days of resumption. When the hostel staff probe the students on why they are late, most times the explanation rendered does not agree with what parents called ahead to report to the school Registrar. Henceforth, any student whose parents call ahead with the excuse he or she is ill, will have to tender a medical report upon resumption.

In addition, any student who delays in resuming on time without any cogent reason will be sanctioned according by the school management.

10. Checking Newsletter and Behavioural Report Online

Alhamdulillah, the second term examinations have been concluded. parents can access their child's report through the link <https://nhcminna.org/resultchecker> , as from Friday 5th of April, 2024.

Upon clicking the link, a result checker will open, prompting you to input your child's admission number. Subsequently, a drop-down menu will appear, offering three options: report sheet, student behavioral report, and pocket money report. Parents are kindly requested to check their ward's behavioral report after reviewing the academic report.

11. Resumption date/time for 2nd term


The school is scheduled to resume in sha Allah on Saturday, 20th April, 2024, on or before 5 pm.

We earnestly pray to Allah for the protection of our children throughout the holiday season and for their safe return to school when the time comes.

Parents are hereby reminded that it is mandatory to contact the school in advance should any circumstance arise that hinders them from returning their child/children on or before the specified time. Your timely communication is greatly appreciated. Please note, no child will be allowed into the school after 5pm on the day of resumption.

Finally, it is important to note that the school does not admit students into the hostel on Sundays. This is due to the fact that both the Bursary and Administrative staff essential for processing student admissions, do not work on that day, because they need the breather to be ready for work on Monday.

Wassalamu alaykum wa rahmatullah wa barakatuh.



Mustafa Mas'ood
Principal