

## **New Horizons College, Minna**

Principal's End of Second Term Newsletter

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2025 (21<sup>st</sup> Ramadan, 1446AH)

*"Good manners will open doors that the best education cannot." —Clarence Thomas*

*"There is no gift a parent can give his child that is better than good upbringing" –  
Prophet Muhammad (PBUH)*

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful.

Assalamu Alaykum Wa Rahmatul'lah Wa Barakatuh

All praises to Allah Lord of the Worlds, the Eternal and the Absolute, the Ever Living and Every Lasting, Owner of all Dominion and Sovereignty.

I extend my heartfelt greetings to you and your families as we come to the end of the holy month of Ramadan. May Allah accept our Fast and Ibadah and bless us all with spiritual growth that comes from observing the prescribed acts of ibadah.

For many of our students, this was their first experience in writing exams and observing the Fast, and it was quite challenging for quite a few of them. On our own part, we gave their leaders the liberty to re-arrange their schedules to what would work best for them.

One of the things we did with the students was to celebrate the coming of the Ramadan, by having them decorate their rooms and hostels with lights and other crafts, and engage in other Islamic oriented activities as our own way to imbibe the spirit of Ramadan; as they come home to you, we kindly request your support in reinforcing the importance of Ramadan in your children's lives, encouraging them to participate in acts of worship, charity, and reflection. By working together, we can instill a deeper understanding and appreciation of this holy month and its teachings in the hearts of our students.

Once again, I wish you and your families a blessed Eid in advance. May Allah (SWT) accept your fasting, prayers, and good deeds, and shower His countless blessings upon you and your families

**Below are the highlights of this Newsletter:**

1. Calendar for 3<sup>rd</sup> Term
2. GCE 2025 Results
3. Academic Report
4. Extracurricular Report
5. Islamiyyah Report
6. Reminder on proposed school fees increase for September 2025
7. Resumption From Election Break

## 1. Abridged Calendar For 3<sup>rd</sup> Term

Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Boarders Resume
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	-	Day students Resume/Lesson Begins.
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Qur'anic Recitation Competition
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Centralized Test Begins
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	-	Vacation for Eid Adha Break
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Resumption from Eid Adha Break
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	-	SS3 Walima/Jalbab Night
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Visiting/Open Day
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Promotion Exams Begin
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Prize Day/ Vacation
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept.	-	Boarders Resume for New Session

## 2. GCE Jan/Feb GCE Result for Class of 2025

Alhamdulillah, we cannot thank Allah enough for such an outstanding and well-rounded performance. Most of our students recorded distinctions in the subjects they sat for. These are the best GCE results we have recorded since our students began writing this exam in place of NECO. Two of our students recorded straight A1s in all the subjects they sat for.

It is important to note that the GCE serves as a valuable benchmark to assess our students' readiness for the upcoming WAEC examinations in May/June 2025. We typically conduct a detailed data analysis to identify individual and subject-specific weaknesses and take corrective action well ahead of WAEC.

### **Action Plan Going Forward:**

Each teacher is to develop a tailored improvement plan for every student who failed their subject in the GCE. This plan should also incorporate insights from the student's performance in the Pre-GCE and MOCK examinations.

Students who failed any subject will in sha Allah be given additional support lessons. These should focus on solving past questions from the last 10–15 years, with guided review sessions.

Students who scored a 'Pass' or failed in core subjects such as Mathematics and English will be made to retake the same GCE paper under strict exam conditions. Their scripts will be marked using the WAEC grading standard. The results will then be analyzed to pinpoint specific areas requiring further intervention and support.

<b>2025 FEB. GCE RESULT ANALYSIS (CLASS OF 2025)</b>						
<b>Subject</b>	<b>Dist</b>	<b>Credit</b>	<b>Pass</b>	<b>Fail</b>	<b>Outs</b>	<b>Total No.</b>
English	30	36	5	-	-	71
Mathematics	42	18	8	3	-	71
Biology	20	9	-	-	-	29
IRS	54	1	-	-	-	55
Geography	23	5	3	-	-	31
Economics	30	-	1	-	-	31
Physics	38	15	-	-	-	53
Chemistry	41	8	1	-	-	50
Literature	11	-	-	-	-	11
Agric/Science	2	-	-	-	-	2
Further Maths	7	7	3	-	-	17
Fin. Acct	6	1	-	-	-	7
Civic Education	52	5	1	-	-	41
Government	11	-	-	-	-	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>497</b>
<b>Result Analysis</b>						
<b>Grade</b>	<b>Per. (%)</b>					
Distinction	73.84					
Credit	21.13					
Pass	4.43					
Fail	0.60					
	<b>100.00</b>					

### 3. Academic Activities

In continuation of the academic report shared by the Principal during the last PTA General Meeting, below is a summary of key academic activities and progress recorded from mid-term to date:

- **Intervention classes** have continued for students facing academic challenges, with tailored support to help them improve.
- **Teachers have consistently integrated real-life applications** into their lessons, enabling students to connect theoretical concepts with practical experiences.
- The **Mathematics Department** has continued to support teachers in adopting interactive teaching strategies, including the use of educational games and problem-solving exercises to boost engagement and understanding.
- The **English Language Department** maintained its standard of requiring students to write at least **one essay per week**. In addition, students have received regular practice in comprehension, summary, and letter writing to strengthen their overall language skills.
- In the **2nd Term Centralized Test**, performance was as follows:
  - **JSS1–JSS3: 93% of students** obtained 5 credits and above, including Mathematics and English Language.

- **SS1–SS2: 84% of students** obtained 5 credits and above.
- In a **National Mathematics Olympiad**, we are proud to report that:
  - In the **Senior Category**, one of our students won a **Gold Medal**.
  - In the **Junior Category**, another student also received a **Gold Medal**.
- Our **SS3 students** are currently completing their **MOCK Examinations** in preparation for WAEC.
- For **JSS1 to SS2**, 2nd Term Examination results will, in sha Allah, be reviewed by the **Examinations Committee on Thursday, 27th March 2025**, and will be **uploaded for parents to view on Friday, 28th March 2025**.
- Post centralized Test academic counseling session provided for selected students.
- Time management sessions arranged for students struggling with time management.
- Test and Examination ethics session organized for JSS3 students

#### 4. Extracurricular activities

Below is a summary of key activities that took place after the mid-term break:

- Hausa Language students went on an educational excursion to Prestige FM, where they observed real-time radio broadcasting and media operations.
- Agricultural Science students participated in two field trips: one group visited Zaima Farms, Minna, to gain practical insights into modern farming techniques, while another group visited the Niger State Veterinary Clinic to learn about livestock diseases and animal healthcare.
- Technical Drawing students visited CECC Construction Company in Minna, where they observed practical applications of technical drawing and engineering design in real-life construction projects.
- In the spirit of Ramadan, children from a local orphanage were invited to play sports and break their fast with students of New Horizons College, fostering a sense of community and compassion.
- SS2 students also paid a visit to the orphanage, where they personally distributed Ramadan gift items to the children, reinforcing the values of giving and empathy.
- One of our students proudly represented the school at the TEDx Youth Public Speaking event held in Abuja, showcasing their oratory skills and confidence.
- The much-anticipated Inter-House Sports Competition was successfully organized, with Blue House emerging as the overall winner.
- Students affairs organized class and group counselling. They also organized personal mentorship for about 15 students.
- Junior personal development classes held
- Bro Nuru held a AskDIN session, where students asked faith related questions.
- Personal development and leadership session organized for SS2s.

## 5. Islamiyyah Activities

Islamiyyah activities have varied from recitations, memorizations to supervision, tajweed classes, weekly assessments, etc. Below are the activities that students have been engaged in since after midterm:

- Conduct of weekly assessments which are analyzed and used to improve the standard of recitation and memorization.
- Measures put in place to track students who miss centralized test and exams.
- Different levels of vetting for test and exams students write to minimize errors when entering records.
- A one-week Tajweed micro-teaching classes organized for Islamiyyah teachers

## 6. School Fees Increase

The cost of running a school has risen sharply in recent times, driven by several unavoidable factors — chief among them being inflation, soaring utility bills, and other increasing operational expenses.

While we have gone to great lengths to minimize costs and maintain affordable fees, the current fee structure is no longer sufficient to cover our expenses or sustain the high quality of education and services we offer.

To illustrate:

Our AEDC electricity bill, which ranged between ~~₹1.2–₹1.5~~ million per month at the start of this session in **September 2024**, has now doubled to between ~~₹2.6–₹2.8~~ million monthly. This figure **does not include** the cost of fuel and diesel for our generators.

Other essential costs have also escalated significantly — including food, internet for the entire school, stationery, equipment maintenance, medical drugs and diagnostics, hospital bills, and other service subscriptions. In many cases, prices have increased between **50% and 150%**.

As such, it has become necessary to **review the school fees** to ensure we can continue providing a competitive standard of education in the conducive, value-driven environment our students are used to.

Another major factor impacting this decision is the implementation of the **new minimum wage** by both State and Federal Governments. This affects our ability to retain quality teachers, as many are now seeking better-paying opportunities or venturing into business. Even before the new wage took effect, we lost several staff members due to reduced purchasing power. In this second term alone, **three teachers have resigned**, and **three more have expressed plans to leave by the end of the session in July 2025**. In order to retain our talented and dedicated educators, a salary review is now essential.

### **Fee Review Breakdown**

In recalculating the school fees, we have broken down our costs into key categories: **feeding, tuition, uniforms, and books**. This new model revealed a critical insight — over the years, **boarding students' fees have been unknowingly subsidizing day students**. Therefore, in the upcoming adjustment, **day students will see a higher percentage increase** compared to boarders, to bring the fee structure into a more sustainable balance.

### Measures to Ease the Transition

We understand the current economic climate and have taken this into account. As part of our commitment to support families, the school is introducing the following relief measures:

1. **Flexible Payment Plan:** Parents may apply for a three-installment payment plan per term. This is available **upon written request** and is subject to a good record of honoring previous financial agreements.
2. **Sibling Discount:** Families with **three or more children** enrolled in the school will receive a **10% discount on tuition**.
3. **Merit Scholarship:** The **best-performing student in each class** (two per form from JSS2 to SS3) will receive a **50% scholarship on tuition**, renewable each session based on academic performance, in sha Allah.

The proposed revised figures have been forwarded to the **IET Board** for review and approval. Once finalized, we will communicate the details.

We sincerely appreciate your understanding and continued support as we navigate these challenging times. Your partnership makes it possible for us to uphold our values and deliver the holistic, high-quality education your children deserve.

### 7. Resumption From 2<sup>nd</sup> Term Break

Students are expected to resume from the break on Sunday 20 April 2025, on or before 5pm. If any unavoidable circumstance arises to hinder the resumption of your child, please call ahead to notify the School Registrar on 08052662218 or 08093958767.

As we reach the conclusion of another successful term, I would like to take a moment to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for your unwavering support and involvement in our school activities and affairs. Your dedication to your children's education and well-being has greatly contributed to the progress and growth we have seen in our students this term.

Wassalamu alaykum



Mustafa Mas'ood  
Principal