



SOMETHING'S IN THE AIR...

...IF AND THEIR WINDSOCKS

**THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
THE WEEKLY**

**LAGOS, NIGERIA
JANUARY 12, 2007**

Dear AISL Community,

Happy New Year and welcome back! It is always fun to return and hear about all the wonderful experiences that people had during the Holiday Season.

As we begin the new year, we want to make sure that everyone is aware of specific needs that help us maintain an orderly and safe environment for our students.

1. We need all cars to have Last Name Placards displayed on vehicles for pick up.
2. We require all personal staff, parents, visitors and staff to wear identification tags at all times.
3. Unless it is an emergency, we expect all drivers to stay in the dispatched driver area (in the front entrance).
4. Unless it is an emergency, we expect all nannies to stay in the waiting area until the student is dismissed from school.

In addition, we expect construction to begin on the 1004 estates soon. This will impact our parking and traffic flow. Please be informed there will be changes once I have details from the management of the 1004 estates. I will forward the information to all families.

Nice to see everyone back...

Thomas P. Shearer
Superintendent

Board News: 2006 2007 Goals

From time to time, the board will provide a general update and highlight an issue that we are working on. Today, I would like to update you all on our school goals for this year.

Each year, the Board of Directors, after consulting with the Superintendent, sets a range of goals for the year ahead as well as a priority list of goals for the school administration. These goals are important for two distinct reasons; first, they integrate with the schools long term objectives and secondly, they become a benchmark of sorts for the board's as well as the school's overall performance.

The goals usually include a complicated mesh of matrixes and tasks with assigned priorities for each within each goal. In addition, each goal has a sub-committee assigned to it with two or more board members.

The Superintendent's work is not limited to his Administrative goals, he also has to contend with assisting the board with its own goals. This is why Tom Shearer's relentless energy and the incredible commitment from our board members has contributed to a truly flying start for us on the board.

Sincerely,

Rabie Jarmakani
President, Board of Directors

Board of Directors Goals

- I. Conduct a review of AISL Emergency Response and School Disruption Contingency Plans.
- II. Develop policies to deliver a consistently high standard of educational services as defined in the AISL Strategic Plan.
- III. Evaluate recruiting and personnel policies to ensure that AISL attracts the highest quality staff.
- IV. Review and update the AISL Strategic Plan pursuant to the 'Plan of Improvement' as approved by the accreditation board.
- V. Continuation with high school development plans.

Administrative Goals

1. Academics Benchmarks re Benchmarks used at other international schools.
2. Citizenship Programme
3. Support Alternative Styles of learning for students
4. High School Curriculum Program
5. Facility Upgrade
6. Purchasing Policy
7. Outreach to other schools

Term I Finals Schedule

Wednesday, 17 January 2007

Test A:	7:30	-	8:50	(80 minutes)
Electives	8:55	-	9:45	(50 minutes)
Study Groups:	9:50	-	11:20	(90 minutes)
Lunch	11:20	-	11:50	
Test B	11:55	-	1:15	(90 minutes)
Electives	1:20	-	2:10	(50 minutes)

<i>CLASS</i>	<i>Day 1 Test A</i>	<i>Day 1 Test B</i>
Science	8A & 8B	9
French	Plan	8A&8B
Math	7A&7B	Plan
History	9	7A&7B
English	Plan	Plan

Term I Finals Schedule

Thursday, 18 January 2007

Test A:	7:30	-	8:50	(80 minutes)
Electives	8:55	-	9:45	(50 minutes)
Study Groups:	9:50	-	11:20	(90 minutes)
Lunch	11:20	-	11:50	
Test B	11:55	-	1:15	(90 minutes)
Electives	1:20	-	2:10	(50 minutes)

<i>CLASS</i>	<i>Day 2 Test A</i>	<i>Day 2 Test B</i>
Science	Plan	7A&B
French	9	Plan
Math	8A&8B	Plan
History	Plan	8A & 8B
English	7A&7B	9

Term I Finals Schedule

Friday, 19 January 2007

Test A:	7:30	-	8:50	(80 minutes)
Electives	8:55	-	9:45	(50 minutes)
2nd BLOCK				
Locker cleanout	9:50	-	11:20	(90 minutes)
Elective selection				
Spirit assembly				
Lunch	11:20	-	11:50	
BLUE slip Activity	11:55	-	2:10	(140 minutes)

<i>CLASS</i>	<i>Day 3 Test A</i>
Science	Plan
French	7A&7B
Math	9
History	Plan
English	8A&B

Junior High Finals Schedule

Term 1, January 2007

	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>		<i>Thursday</i>		<i>Friday</i>
<i>CLASS</i>	<i>15 January</i>	<i>16 January</i>	<i>17 January Test A 7:30 -8:50</i>	<i>17 January Test B 11:55-1:15</i>	<i>18 January Test A 7:30 -8:50</i>	<i>18 January Test B 11:55-1:15</i>	<i>19 January Test A 7:30 -8:50</i>
Science			8A&8B	9		7A&7B	
French				8A&8B	9		7A&7B
Math			7A&7B		8A & 8B		9
History			9	7A&7B		8A&8B	
English					7A&7B	9	8A&8B

	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>		<i>Thursday</i>		<i>Friday</i>
Art	7A 2 nd Block 7B 3 rd Block 9 th During Art class	8A 1 st Block 8B 2 nd Block 9 th During Art class					
Band						Concert Band Final 2 nd Elective Block	Symphonic Band Final 1 st Elective Block

January 12, 2007

Volume 1, Issue 10

Counselor's Corner

Counselor- Julia L. Simens
American International School of Lagos

Hints to help your study better!

I often hear students exclaim that they have no homework. Parents and children must remember that even though no specific assignment has been made, there is still homework: it's called "study".

For Jr. High and High School students I strongly recommend that you spend a *minimum* of twenty minutes of homework/study time (five days a week) on *each* of your major subjects. If you have no studying to do whatsoever, you should still complete the 100-minute minimum: pick up a good book and *read!* Yes, Even during holidays! I have appreciated the kids who have stopped by my office to share what great books they read over the holiday break.

Homework for students in 5th and 6th grade homework/study time should be 60 to 90 minutes per night so if they do not have work for this long of time period, then they should complete the time with reading. Students in 3rd and 4th grade should be hitting the books until 45 to 60 minutes a day. 1st and 2nd graders need between 30 and 45 minutes each night. Kindergarten and Pre-K need to have someone read to them at least 20 minutes a day. *Remember that extensive readers tend to score higher on standardized tests, including those for college admission.*

Note: the four re's are where it is! Study, in contrast to specific homework, includes but is not limited to:

1. The *rewriting* of lecture notes, lab reports or class notes.
2. The *reviewing* of notes while they are still fresh in ones' mind. In terms of understanding material, one hour spent as soon after a lecture as possible is worth several hours several days later.
3. The *rethinking* of concepts. Example, theorems in geometry rethink them so you know them verbatim and can apply them to problems not previously assigned.
4. The *reworking* of foreign language vocabulary by making up English sentences and transcribing them into the foreign language.
5. The outlining of history chapter for purpose of review for a chapter or section test. The *rewriting* of any material has been shown to be a most beneficial technique in improving recall or comprehension.
6. *Get a good night's sleep before a test – no cramming! Research indicates that sleep helps to "seal in" information.*



7. If you have no studying to do – *Read!*

Curriculum Corner by Carla Massoud



New Year!!!!

Dear Parents,

I hope that all our students had wonderful Holidays and were well settled by now.

*1- January is a busy month in AISL. Final scheduling for **ITBS and Cog. A.T** testing has been set.*

***Junior High/High School** will begin on the 29th of January and will test for three mornings.*

***Grades 3 to 6** will test for five mornings and thus finishing on Friday, February 2nd, 2007.*

***Grades 1 and 2** will take few days more and try to finish on February 6, 2007. For your information, first graders take only the cognitive test. We encourage students to **avoid** missing school over that period.*

*2- As you all know, the **French** department has worked very hard on the French adoption for 2007-2008. We will display all evaluated books in front of KR on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week from 1:30-2:30.*

Your input is very valuable. Help us to make the best choice for your children.

French adoption will be presented at the Board Study session on January 23, at 4:30.

Wish you the best

*Carla Massoud
Curriculum Coordinator*

SATURDAY A.I.S.L.

BASEBALL

COACHES MEETING

January 16th
7:30pm
Conference Room



We will have our coaches meeting in the conference Room on January 16th at 7:30 in the evening. Part of the reason for this meeting is to schedule practice times for teams but also be prepared to receive the uniforms for your teams as well.

We are still short coaches for some of the teams, so we need to find people to fill these slots ASAP. The teams and coach assignments are posted on the bulletin board at the school, so have a look to see who you are up against this year.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call any of the Commissioners. We are looking forward to good season having fun playing Baseball.

Commissioners:

David Blackall – 0802-983-7885

Kevin Huehlefeld – 0803-407-0055

Danny Bosman – 0803-525-1033

Reminder

Variety Show Tryouts

Jan. 22nd – Jan. 26th

If you do not remember your
day or time for your tryout,
Check the sheets placed on
the bulletin board

By
Mrs. Masha's room

Please be prompt

Looking forward to viewing your act!

Variety Show Committee

After School Activities Update

Session II starts Monday,
January 15, 2006.

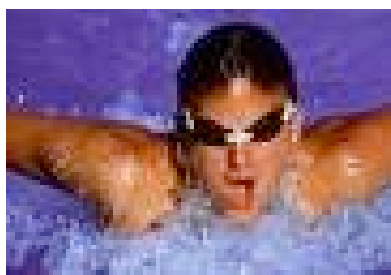


So that we can hold your son/
daughter's reserved activity
all bills must be paid by
Monday, January 15, 2006.

If you have any questions please see Mr. Stewart (Room 214) or Mr. Mecca (Room 208)

Venues

Mrs. Masha's Classes:	Elementary Music Room
Mrs. Reese's Classes:	Band Room
Ceramics with Mrs. Lawson:	Room 307
Story Time:	Room 113
K-2 Homework Monday & Wednesday	Room 106
K-2 Homework Tuesday & Thursday	Room 103
Jewelry Making	Room 205
Puppet Theater	Room 209
Science Extra Help	Room 316
Creative Writing	Annex Room 102
Help with French Homework	Rooms 220 & 219
Karate Grades K-2 Monday & Wednesday	TBA (Check bulletin board by office)
Taekwondo Grades K-2 Tuesday & Thursday	Pool Conference Room
Karate Grades 3-9 Monday & Wednesday	Aerobics Room (2 nd floor Gym)
Taekwondo Grades 3-9 Tuesday & Thursday	Aerobics Room (2 nd floor Gym)
Chess	Picnic Tables (Outside Gymnasium)
Golf	Field
Guitar	Room 108
Soccer	Field
Gymnastics	Gymnasium



SWIM TEAM

The second session of competitive swimming starts on Monday, 8th of January and ends on the 3rd of March 2007 with AISL Invitational meet.

The practice days are: - Mondays and Wednesdays

K – 2 1: 40 – 2:15 pm

3 – 9 2: 20 – 3:20 pm

New members are welcome to sign up

NJHS

NJHS will resume on Thursday, January 25th. All members and candidates should attend.

Thanks,

Barbara Reynolds

In Search of Photographs

Do you have photos of AISL students in

- playground activities (on the Big Toy, Soccer Saturdays, during recess, etc.)?
- AISL special events (Nigerian Culture Day, Family Fun Fair, etc.)?
- classroom events (birthday parties, theatrical presentations, class assignments etc.)?
- posed or candid shots with their AISL classmates and friends?

If so, please submit these digital photos for the 2006-2007 AISL yearbook. Burn them to a CD or DVD and give to Betsy Lafontant, Grade 6 teacher (no e-mails please). Do not reduce the resolution. Label the photos so we know which activities or grade levels are represented on the disk. Let us know if you would like the disk returned to you.

Thanks for your help.

2006 -2007 AISL Yearbook

There will be a yearbook meeting on Tuesday, January 23, 2007 from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. in room 314. Photographers, writers, artists and reliable JHS students are invited to work on the yearbook. Knowledge of Adobe Photoshop, InDesign and MS Word is essential. We will begin working in the JHS lab after ITBS testing.

Please see Ms. Lafontant (6th grade teacher) to see where your skills can fit in. If you have other after-school activities, we'll try to work around your schedule.

Come with your ideas and good humor. Also, come on time!