

Quarter 1 Newsletter

Dear NVIS Esteemed Parents

The end of the first Quarter of Term 1 has come and we can reflect positively and proudly on the past 8 weeks since this highly unusual academic year began. We have adapted to Hybrid Learning efficiently and struck a good balance between our responsibilities to community health alongside the educational needs of our learners. The situation is far from ideal. However, it is the best scenario given the reality which prevails and there are three main reference points from which to draw this conclusion.

Attendance at school is good and student engagement in learning (both in the classroom and online) is high – our tracking of student progress indicates that there is no reason for alarm; students are learning at the expected rate despite restricted access to ‘normal learning’.

We have a healthy school. By all accounts we have no incidences of transfer of COVID-19 on campus or among students, thanks to robust cleaning routines, site restrictions (in terms of essential personnel only on campus and carefully considered efforts to reduce group interaction), personal health and safety measures (vigilance with shield/mask wearing and social distancing) and appropriate action in the case of suspected exposure.

We have happy staff and students! The climate on campus is positive and cheerful with all having adjusted well to our ‘new normal’. Students are enjoying learning in smaller groups and benefitting from strengthened relationships with their peers and teachers. The compromise of quantity is being more than compensated for by the quality in all aspects of their day to day experience at school.

We have a week of mid-term break to enjoy before the second half of Term 1 commences. When we return on the 4th of November our Hybrid Learning model will continue. Recognizing the likelihood of this arrangement lasting for the foreseeable future, we have reflected on aspects of our approach that are working well and listened to feedback from students, parents, and teacher and school leaders. Accordingly, we will be making adjustments where deemed appropriate.

Quarter Break commences on Thursday the 29th of October and Ends on November 3rd 2020. Students are expected to return back either on campus or online 4th of November 2020. Academic year 2020 – 2021

