

Dear Parents,

Welcome to all our new families and welcome back to our current group of parents and students. I would like to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself to you in our first newsletter of the session. My name is Mr. Brian McCormack and I took up the position of Principal of Muscat International School on 11th August 2010. I have worked in Administration and Senior Management positions in the UK and the Middle East since 1997.

I look forward to meeting you over the next weeks and months as we work together to provide what I trust will be a comprehensive and exciting educational experience for your children. I firmly believe that a strong partnership between staff and parents is vital to the success of this provision and I will be discussing with you later how best you can play your part in the education of your children by working closely with us. I would like at this point to thank my two senior colleagues, Mr. Gordon Parrish, who as you know, is Head of Primary Section; and Mr. Khalil Ahmed who has recently been appointed Acting Head of Secondary. Their advice and support, especially on "Local Matters", has been invaluable to me as I settle into my new post.

Your child will be issued with a homework diary/planner which outlines clearly the school dress code, the school code of conduct, and the calendar for the year. All students will be expected to use this planner continuously to plan and record their studies. Please check it regularly! You will be amazed at the insight it gives you of how your child is progressing in terms of his/her ability to organize his/her school life. Your child's form tutor will also be keeping a close check on the planners and they can be used as an efficient way of staff and parents communicating with each other on a regular, informal basis.

We have secured the services of a number of new staff this session and I have been hugely impressed by how hard the entire school staff, both teaching and non-teaching, worked to prepare for the arrival of students on the morning of 28th August. The two week period prior to the Eid break allowed us to get started with the preliminary work of the session. Now that we have returned, we are continuing with the process of teaching and learning confident that all the settling-in routines have been carried out effectively, examination courses and options have been agreed and put into place, and staff have become familiar with the school's policies and procedures.

I look forward to the rest of this session and I would like to thank everyone who has welcomed me into the Muscat International School Community. With this in mind, I would like to take this opportunity of inviting all of you to our Parent/Teacher Association A.G.M. which will be held on Monday, 4th October. I hope you will continue to support the school by taking an active part in this extremely important body. I look forward to seeing you at this meeting.

I am keenly aware of the responsibility that I have been entrusted with to take the school community forward and to lead staff in the process of providing your children with a first-class education. I am confident that together the staff and parents of the school can continue to succeed in this goal.

Kind regards,
Brian Mc Cormack

Charity Club : Ramadan Collection



Let me begin with some excellent news! The response to the Ramadan Charity Appeal has been amazing. You have donated an incredible amount of foodstuff and a considerable amount of cash donations. Thank you so much for your generosity towards this very worthwhile cause.

Foodstuffs were distributed to the needy via Dar Al Attaá and also directly to families in Muttrah and Wadi Adai.

School Day Timings

Parents must realise the importance of a prompt start to the working day and make sure that arrangements are put in place to allow your child/ren to arrive in school before 7.25am. Punctuality is an important personal discipline, often used to identify the professional from the amateur, and must be instilled from an early age.



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We have added a 10 minute "Home Room" session at the end of the student day. This means **that students will be dismissed from school at 2.20pm**. Please make the necessary amendment to the arrangements for the collection of your children at the end of the school day.

Car Parking – Collection of Students

Can I ask for your patience and the use of common sense at the end of the student day? Your child's safety is of paramount importance therefore it is necessary for the pick-ups to be carried out in as orderly a fashion as possible. Inconsiderate parking and drivers ignoring traffic flow are causing difficulties at the front of the school on a daily basis. Please follow the instructions of school security staff in order to make this process as safe and effective as it can be given the logistical constraints under which we have to operate.



Start of Session

I would like to thank you all for responding to our start of session timing. We had over 70% of our student population with us on the first day and this rose steadily throughout the first two weeks. Students have all been issued with updated medical forms which you have been asked to complete.

Parent Contacts

We should be grateful if you could update contact details (address, house phone and parent GSM number/s) if these have changed within the last twelve months. It is critical that we are able to contact you should there be a medical or other emergency in school. It might also be useful if you could provide the telephone number of a close relative as a backup in case parents are out of the country. Please email admin@misoman.org with the details.

School Day

The amended timings for the school day came into operation after Eid as will the Activities Programme. Please make a habit of logging into our website for the latest news/information from the school www.misoman.org. Here you will find details of:

- Forthcoming Events
- Fees Information
- Activities Programmes
- Student Code of Conduct and Dress Code
- Newsflashes etc.

Year Group Assemblies

From October onwards I will be holding a series of Year Group Assemblies to reinforce the school's expectations of students in terms of Code of Conduct and Dress Code, Work Ethic, and Student Responsibility. I would hope also to introduce our new Prefects to the Year Groups and explain their roles and responsibilities within our school community. Details of all of these areas will again be posted on the school website for your information.

I would like to remind you of important events to be held in the school Theatre over the next weeks, namely:

Sunday 26th Sept

Grades 1 - 6 Curriculum Evening from 7.30pm

Tuesday 28th Sept

Grades 7 - 12 Curriculum Evening from 7.30pm

Monday 4th October

**Parent/Teacher Association Annual General Meeting
7.30pm**

Japanese Training Squadron Visit to M.I.S.

15 volunteers from the Japanese Training Squadron of the Japan Maritime Self Defence Force visited M.I.S. on Sunday, 19th September, 2010 to introduce the traditional Japanese art of 'Origami' to students. The training squadron set off on their round the world training voyage of 156 days on May 26th. The vessels will visit 12 countries, cover approx 52,800km on their voyage which will end on 28th October.

External Examination Success

M.I.S. students collected their results for both IGCSE and A Level examinations in August and the news has been wonderful for these nine students who scored an excellent set of results with a majority getting A*'s and A's at IGCSE and equally creditable results at AS Level. We are all delighted with these results and praise the hard work and commitment of both students and staff.

Dear Parents



OPEN INVITATION ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PTA

The **PARENT TEACHER
ASSOCIATION'S**

Annual General Assembly

will take place on

Monday, 4th October

beginning promptly at 7.30 pm. in the Theatre



All parents and teachers at M.I.S. are automatically members of the P.T.A. The purpose of the AGA is to form the 2010-2011 Core Committee by electing or re-electing representatives.

Section	Staff Representatives	Parent Representatives
Kindergarten	1	1
Primary	2	2
Secondary	3	3
Administration	Principal	

The Aims of the Muscat International School P.T.A. are:

- *to develop the school's identity*
- *to promote communication and understanding between parents and teachers*
- *to provide information concerning the academic procedures of the school*
- *to impart information about school events*
- *to provide an opportunity for two-way interaction and to develop support and interest in all aspects of school life*
- *to encourage parents and staff with particular skills, resources and facilities to contribute to school life.*
- *to help in organization of fund raising events and community building activities*

Please make every effort to attend. Your contribution is very much encouraged and welcomed.

**Brian McCormack
Principal**

DAILY TIMETABLE 2010-2011

All students **MUST** be in the school grounds by 7.25 am [first bell].

Latecomers must report to Reception

KINDERGARTEN classes operate from 7.30am to 12.30pm *Extension facility operates until 2.20 p.m.*

PRIMARY	SECONDARY
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ASSEMBLY	0730 - 0740	ASSEMBLY	0730 - 0740
HOME ROOM	0740 - 0750	HOME ROOM	0740 - 0750
Lesson 1	0750 - 0830	Lesson 1	0750 - 0830
Lesson 2	0830 - 0910	Lesson 2	0830 - 0910
BREAK	0910 - 0940	Lesson 3	0910 - 0950
Lesson 3	0940 - 1020	BREAK	0950 - 1020
Lesson 4	1020 - 1100	Lesson 4	1020 - 1100
Lesson 5	1100 - 1140	Lesson 5	1100 - 1140
BREAK	1140 - 1210	Lesson 6	1140 - 1220
Lesson 6	1210 - 1250	BREAK	1220 - 1250
Lesson 7	1250 - 1330	Lesson 7	1250 - 1330
Lesson 8	1330 - 1410	Lesson 8	1330 - 1410
Home Room	1410 - 1420	Home Room	1410 - 1420

School gates will be closed at approximately 3.30pm.