



THE REGENT DIGEST

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Whole School Exams**
Monday 27th March, 2017.
- **End of Term**
Friday 31st March, 2017
- **DofE Expedition**
Saturday 1st - Friday 7th April, 2017.

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This week, the Regent Digest highlights World Poetry Day. Read Miss Marva Buchanan's fascinating article about this important day, and the English Department's commitment to stimulate interest in language and literature. Also included are articles featuring Obi Hostel's visit to an old age home, and Oduduwa Hostel's swimming outing. Happy reading!

WORLD POETRY DAY 2017

"Arranged in words, coloured with images, struck with the right meter, poetry has a power that has no match. This is the power to shake us from everyday life and to remind us of the beauty that surrounds us and the resilience of the shared human spirit."

The above formed part of a speech, delivered by Irina Bokova – Director General, UNESCO, to mark World Poetry Day, 2017. Similar sentiments echo daily in many an English classroom.

Since its 1999 proclamation, when UNESCO invited each country in the world to mark 21st March – World Poetry Day - 'in its own way', many countries, as well as national and local organisations, have rallied to the call. One such initiative is the Nigeria Poetry competition. The theme for 2017 was State of the Nation. This offers contestants quite generous monetary prizes, as well as the opportunity to publish their work within an anthology, featuring new and established poets.

The English Department at The Regent Secondary highlighted World Poetry Day by: submitting its first entries to the Nigeria Poetry competition; raising staff and student awareness, in meetings and lessons - prior to and on the day; and by students and teachers from the department, writing, reciting, displaying and contributing their tomes to the English Faculty's occasional publication - The Literati.

On Tuesday, the winners were announced, at a cultural fiesta of performance poetry. Like an Oprah show, each member of the audience at the Korean Cultural Centre in Abuja came away with a gift! The English Faculty classrooms and Library are now enriched by 6 copies of the competition's most recent publication – From Here to There! Presently, the anthology combines the poems of adult and student writers. Next year, however, this national celebration will see the launch of the first student publication. Student entrants from The Regent to this year's competition will find themselves among its pages.

Wednesday 21st March 2018 observes the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, World Down Syndrome Day, the celebration of the Persian festival of Spring-Nowruz, and International Day of Forests - all rich material to write about. The English Faculty anticipates a much bigger celebration of next World Poetry Day, so students and adults of The Regent Secondary family are urged to get writing in preparation for it, and perhaps, our own anthology!

Miss Marva Buchanan (Teacher of English, Literature and Drama)



OBI HOSTEL CHARITY VISIT

On 19th March 2017, Obi Hostel went on an outing to Amazing Grace Old People's Home to see how the elderly were doing. When we arrived at the home, we were wonderfully welcomed by the founder of the foundation, Dr. Mrs Ifeyinwa Obegolu. She was a very brilliant host, explaining to us how the foundation came about and the surprising places they got some of their residents from. She asked us some questions like what is the meaning of Regent; we were taken aback because we never expected such questions.

Our House Parent and Hostel Captain presented some of the items we brought to show that we care just like we are taught at The Regent Secondary School. We then proceeded to the room, where they kept a staggering 101-year-old -lady. She was the oldest at the foundation even though she looked as if she was still in her seventies, which shows that they take very good care of them. We prayed for her and in return she blessed us, which I believe will help us to succeed in whatever we do. We went to other rooms to see an 85-year-old woman and a sick 74-year-old woman too. Unfortunately, we were unable to see the most of elder people because they had gone to church.

What impressed me was how the owner of the foundation gave back to the society after all her successes in life. It really showed that the world we live in still has humans who care about others, not only about themselves. This is a something that The Regent Secondary School has taught us.

We really enjoyed ourselves at Amazing Grace Old People's Home and we are looking forward to going again to give more, and show that we care and support the elderly.

Daniel Nzeribe (Year 9 Obi Hostel)



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ODUDUWA HOSTEL SWIMMING OUTING

On Sunday, 19th March, Oduduwa Hostel went swimming in Maitama. We left the school at 3.09 p.m. right after prep. The bus ride was fun because we were singing various songs. When we arrived, we changed into our swimwear and jumped into the pool. It was my sister's birthday, so when she came out of the changing room, we all shouted happy birthday at once and she was kind of surprised. We played water-ball in the pool, had races, and did some kayaking.

At 5.30 p.m., we got out of the pool, and had our popcorn and soft drinks. Some of us danced to music. The day went by so quickly and by 5.50 p.m., it was time to leave. Back in school, we could not stop talking about all the fun we had, especially kayaking experience. I had a wonderful day, as it was refreshing to have a change of environment.

Khadija Muhammed Sani (Year 11 Oduduwa Hostel)

On Sunday, 19th March, 2017, Oduduwa Hostel went for swimming at the Kings Swimming Academy, located in Maitama. A total of 29 girls and three members of staff, comprising of house parents and a nurse, left the school just after 3 p.m. A security guard also accompanied us.

On arrival we were warmly received by the coach of the Academy. The girls did not waste any time as they quickly changed into appropriate swimwear and had a wonderful time in the pool. They had fun kayaking, playing water-ball, swimming, dancing, and enjoying lots of pop-corn and soft drinks. It was really fun for everyone and by the time they were set to leave they all had satisfaction written all over their faces.

By 6.09 p.m., we were back in school with not a care in the world! It was a great outing and we all look forward to it again.

Mrs. Ojeh Emily (Oduduwa House Parent)

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

**VICTOR AGBASOGA
YEAR 7 SENEGAL**



READER OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Amina Aden (Year 9 Volta), who is Reader of the Week. She has read and reviewed the following books:

- *Mary Mary* by James Patterson
- *James and the Giant Peach* by Roald Dahl



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QUOTATION OF THE WEEK

“The man who does not read has no advantage over the man who cannot read.”

▪ **Mark Twain (1835 - 1910), an American writer, humorist, entrepreneur, publisher, and lecturer.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Year 11 IGCSE Mock Examinations: The Year 11 IGCSE mock examinations are scheduled from Monday, 20 to Friday, 31 March 2017.

End-of-term Examinations: Examination timetables have been issued to students, indicating the following dates:

- **Year 10 End-of-term Examinations:** Scheduled from Thursday, 23 to Thursday, 30 March 2017. Note that no examinations will be written on Friday, 31 March, due to early departure of the Duke of Edinburgh students.
- **Years 7 to 9 End-of-term Examinations:** Scheduled from Monday, 27 to Friday, 31 March 2017.

Feedback to Parents: Reports will be issued on Monday, 24 April and Parent-Teacher Consultations will be held on Friday, 28 and Saturday, 29 April.

Cambridge Secondary 1 Checkpoint: Please note that the dates for the Checkpoint Exams for Year 9 students have been changed. Checkpoint Exams will be written between 1:30 and 4:00 p.m. as follows:

- English – Tuesday, 25 April 2017
- Mathematics – Thursday, 27 April 2017
- Science – Friday, 28 April 2017

Note: In preparation for Checkpoint, Booster Classes will be held for Year 9 students, commencing Wednesday, 19 April 2017. Attendance is compulsory.

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