

ST. URSULA'S GIRLS'
ANGLICAN SCHOOL
PARENT NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2011

*To a child, LOVE is
spelled T-I-M-E*

APPRECIATION

On behalf of the entire staff, I thank all our parents/guardians for the wonderful support shown during 2011. Our various projects and events were well supported by most, if not all, of you. Our recent Christmas bazaar was again successful, for which we are very grateful. We acknowledge that times are indeed financially difficult and we know that great sacrifices were made in order to support the school in all its projects and programmes. Realizing our goals serves to reinforce to us that any successes we enjoy would not be possible without your support, dear parents. Again, we thank you and look forward to your continuing support in 2012. Here is a quick look at some of the activities we will be engaging in for the rest of the academic year:

**Registration forms for new students to be distributed on Monday 23rd January 2012.

**Annual Inter-House Calypso Competition & Jump Up on Carnival Thursday.

**Music Festival in Feb.-March

**Walkathon in early March

**Family Fun Day in mid-March

**POS Central Games

**Church Service and Parade for our 160th anniversary in April

**Easter Parade

**Individual Parent Conferences

**SEA exam on 10th May

**Graduation Ceremony in June.

On another note, quite a number of parents and guardians have not yet made their contributions towards stationery and library services. We urge you to do so early in the new term.

Please make some time during the Christmas vacation to revise schoolwork and redo test papers with your girls. Also remember to write your reflections in the report book and supervise while your daughter/ward does hers. The book must then be signed and returned on the first day of school.

Following Rules

Before their daughters enter the school, all parents are issued copies of

the School's Information and Rule Booklet. We are asking you to read the rules with their children regularly to ensure that they are both familiar as well as compliant with them. As you know, rule breaking is one of the early steps to later delinquency and other inappropriate kinds of behaviour that ultimately lead to seriously negative and unproductive citizenship.

Please also ensure that your daughter/ward wears the correct uniform at all times. Shoes, socks and ribbons are beginning to pose a problem. Shoes must be completely white, socks must be visible (at least three inches above the ankle) and ribbons must be worn every day. Also, only small gold or silver STOPPER earrings are permitted. Some students are coming to school with earrings shaped like the first letter of their names. This is not allowed and such earrings will be confiscated. House buttons must be worn every day. The P.E. uniform is to be worn on the appropriate day. Students who are not attired in the P.E. uniform will not be allowed to participate in the P.E. lesson. We are seeking your cooperation in these matters.

Reaching Out

We compliment the Std. 5 teachers and students of St. Ursula's for their efforts to reach out to the students of Choices. Choices is a school for young unwed mothers. It is an institution where they can continue their education as well as care for their babies. The school provides an opportunity for these young women to make better choices as they continue to mature. Recently, our Std. 5 students and teachers visited Choices and presented gifts to the young mothers and their babies. It is gratifying to know that we, along with you, dear parents, are inculcating a sense of caring, sharing and citizenship in our students.

Time for Church



At our recent church services, we noted that many of the students seemed unaware of the etiquette required for worship. Therefore we respectfully ask that you make an effort to take your daughters/wards to church more often and that you actively teach them the procedures, responses and behaviour. They must learn to sit quietly, respond ap-

propriately and generally behave themselves. We will do our part by taking them to All Saints' Church at least once per term.

Reminder to Parents

Many students are not doing their homework every night. Of those that are completed, parents have neglected to sign the exercise books. You are reminded that written/unwritten homework is given every day. It is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY**, at this level, to ensure that it is completed.

Many students are not bringing the books prescribed for the day. You are asked to consult the timetable and ensure, **EVERY DAY**, that the appropriate textbooks and exercise books are put in the bag. A storybook must be brought every day for the silent reading period after lunch.

Please ensure that writing implements and their accompaniments (erasers, sharpeners, rulers) are brought to school each day. If your daughter is so careless as to lose a pen or pencil every day, then you must give her a new one **every day** while trying to inculcate a sense of responsibility in other ways. When you send her without a pen or pencil, you are sending the message that she can be idle while the other students are writing.

The Best Toys

There is much research to show that the best toys are the ones that stimulate a child's imagination, e.g. building blocks, books (both fiction and non-fiction), puzzles, activity books, art materials, craft projects, simple musical instruments. Children have vivid imaginations, and they are eager to both learn and play. So, this Christmas, you might want to consider these (which are often cheaper in price) before you buy expensive, battery-powered, flashy toys that merely encourage passive watching and do not offer active manipulation, limiting what your child can do. *From Awake! (August 8, 2004)*

We are sending out an urgent call to any parent who took photographs at the recent Miss St. Ursula's Pageant to contact Ms. Layne to discuss sharing your pictures with us.



On behalf of the staff, I extend best wishes to all parents and guardians for a happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.
Janette Skerritt. Principal

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