



Accra, 22.10.2016

Dear Parents,

Hopefully you have all had nice and relaxing holidays and are ready for this phase of school from now until the Christmas holidays.

Please do allow me to give you a brief review of an event and a preview of some upcoming ones. The days before the holidays were entirely geared towards the inspection. Mr. Knieling and Ms. Drasdo were able to obtain an all-round view of the school and through different interviews and varying perspectives and viewpoints their findings led the positive assessment of the GSIS.

At this point, I would once more like to thank the parents, pupils and colleagues who served as interview partners.

The school will receive the report on the inspection within the next few weeks through the Embassy. Our school facilitator, Stefan Marien the members of the school board, the colleagues and I are going to consider how to continue working with the results presented and work towards the development of the school. Mr. Marien is going to be in the school from 21.11. – 25.11.2016.

On **30.10.2016 this year's Accra-International-Marathon** is going to take place. For a number of years now pupils, colleagues and parents of the school have been participating in the event. We would be happy if you would like to be around to cheer us on. We expect the first "finishers" to be at the entrance to the Labadi Beach Hotel by 6.45 a.m. As in the previous years, we are also going to have a stand on the lawn inside the Labadi-Beach-Hotel with some information material on our school. If you are interested in being responsible for the stand for a specific duration of time, please do let me know. I would then gladly let you have the details.

Another event in school is going to be the **official inauguration of the solar panels and our science laboratory on 3. 11. 2016** by the new German Ambassador Mr. Retzlaff. The inauguration

will begin **at 5 p.m.** Apart from the speech by the Ambassador as part the short programme line up, Mr. Blanz, the engineer who installed the solar panels will be giving a talk on the details of the system. The inauguration of the science laboratory will also be done by the German Ambassador. Cay Götz will present the history of how everything was installed in that room. The school board of governors has decided to name the room after the first president of the former Ramseyer Memorial School Mr. Soltermann. This gesture is in honour of the dedication of the Swiss in establishing the present GSIS-Accra. After the inauguration, there is going to be a small reception.

The entire school community is cordially invited to the inauguration event.

As usual on **Friday, 11.11.2016 our lantern walk** will be taking place. This tradition is in memory of Saint Martin. In Germany there are lantern processions in several villages and towns on the 11.11.

Our children in the Early Childhood Department and our pupils will be making their own lanterns in school, a short play is being rehearsed and a number of songs about Saint Martin are going to be learnt and practised for the evening event. In the past years the parents have always contributed to the buffet which is served after the procession. It would be nice if we could continue that tradition. The drinks and the traditional Martins pastries will be provided by the school.

This will certainly be on the agenda during the Parents' Meeting scheduled for the beginning of November. You will receive some more detailed information concerning the schedule for the lantern walk as the day of the event approaches.

The elections in Ghana will be taking place on the **7th of December 2016**. The school will remain closed on that day. School will be in session on the other days. We assume that – as communicated by the Embassy – the elections are going to take place in peace. Nevertheless in case of any unexpected developments which should endanger the security we will have to be able to react. If you are going to leave the country before the official holidays on the 12.12.2016 I would like to ask you to please inform the respective kindergarten teacher/class teacher. Thank you.

I would like to wish you and your children another good start in school!

Best regards,

Ariane Pentz