

From The Principal's Desk

Dear Marian Academy Family,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! Imagine that on Tuesday September 14, we would be celebrating our 23rd birthday! We will celebrate Mass in Thanksgiving at 8:30 am. We also give thanks that we are able to begin school with all classes on line, though we would have preferred being at school physically. We welcome especially our Nursery 1, Form 1 and Lower Sixth Form, and all other new students. We hope that all new students will have a wonderful experience at Marian Academy. We hope you had a good summer break and enjoyed your time relaxing and rejuvenating. Whether you are a new or a returning family, we hope you are ready to join us for another exciting year of learning at Maran Academy! We look forward to continuing our work with our students and families.

Our students have shown their flexibility to adapt and utilize technological tools in multiple ways. Before the pandemic, our school vision had been to create learning environments that support the development of 21st-century skills for all students. Little did we know that Distance Learning would create so many opportunities for our students to put into practice many of the skills they have learned in Information Technology classes.

We are extremely mindful of the current health and safety concerns for returning to school in person. As we plan for our return, we promise to keep our communication transparent, informative, and timely. Knowing that we do not hold all the answers to your questions at all times as we depend on guidance from the Ministries of Health and Education, we will work hard to share information and resources quickly. We hope that as soon as everyone who can be vaccinated has done so, we will be able to return to school physically. With everyone's support and effort, we can keep each other healthy and ensure students' access to all learning opportunities. We will be reviewing as we progress to see how we can begin to bring in students physically.

Here is some important information for parents and families:

- 1. The Term Calendar will provide you with dates you will need, to guide you over the term. Please visit Teams or the Marian Academy website for the Calendar.**
- 2. Mrs. Portia Swain, would have taught many of you in Moral Education classes, for 23 years at Marian Academy. We are saddened at her death and pray that she enjoys eternal rest with our loving Lord. We also pray for the rest of her family, especially Danielle and Sarah, her two daughters, that they be comforted by the fond memories they have of her. The Marian Family will be greatly miss her.**
- 3. We welcome Miss Donette La Rose, Miss Candecy Burnett and Mrs. Indira Beaton to the Primary Department, and Miss Davis and Miss Hicks to the Secondary Department. We thank Miss Sarah Swain, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Lee and Mr. Clarke for their years of service to Marian Academy. There were other part- time teachers who taught for shorter periods, and we extend gratitude to them for their contribution.**

4. We wish to congratulate some students who did exceeding well in various competitions over the summer and even over the past year.
- Congratulation to Adia Alphonso who competed in the online FIDE World Cup Chess Tournament. She started off with a ranking of 105 and ended up with a ranking of 93. She scored 3.5 out of 7 points. This was the highest score for team Guyana in her round.
 - Congratulation to Akeerah Alphonso who did the Coding Summer Class that was sponsored by the Office of the Prime Minister for girl ages 10 -14. She topped the class and received one of the four awards given for outstanding performance. She received the award for top problem solver.
 - Congratulations to Renika Anand. She entered several competitions and received several awards. She also had an article published in the 15th Annual Caribbean Child Research Conference Magazine in which she was recognized as an outstanding researcher.
 - Many other students have not yet shared their successes. We look forward to hearing from them.

Do have a wonderful and amazing year.

Sincerely

Sister Marie Harper, osu