



10th February, 2021

Re: New Assessment Plans for 1st, 2nd and 5th Year students

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s),

I hope that you and your families are keeping safe and well.

A big well done to all our students and their families for the excellent engagement with remote teaching and learning. I know that there are many challenges for families at these times. The high level of student engagement and support from home has been exceptional. I appreciate that students are looking for clarity around exams and assessments.

At this time of the year we, at OLS, would normally expect to see halls lined with desks behind which our diligent students could be seen intently focused on completing their House examinations to the very best of their ability. However, faced with the challenges of the pandemic and with continued uncertainty about a date of return to school, we postponed the February assessments until after midterm.

As the remote teaching and learning phase continues we have decided to replace the traditional February House exams with alternative subject based in-class / homework assessments. An assessment period will run from February 22nd for 2 weeks where your daughter will be set specific subject based tasks to form an assessment grade for each subject. These assessments may take the form of a scheduled test, a submission of a prescribed assignment, a grade reached through continuous assessment or a combination of such methods. Whichever approach is implemented by the subject department, your daughter's teacher will clearly detail how it will be assessed and how a grade will be awarded.

Mid-term Break Rest

This assessment window does not necessitate any extra study by your daughter over the mid term break as we all appreciate that a good rest is crucial for all during school holidays. These are low key assessments which will allow us to gauge your daughter's progress in each subject.

Students and staff of OLS have risen admirably and always in good spirit when faced with any obstacles encountered by the many COVID restrictions and we have every confidence

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that your daughter will engage with this new assessment plan with the commitment and application that they would normally bring to the traditional examinations. We are all working to be as flexible as possible and to adapt each aspect of traditional school life where necessary.

The students of OLS have worked with tremendous effort, consistency and focus this term and should welcome the mid-term break as an opportunity to switch off, revitalise and relax.

We hope to see all of our students return to their learning, whether that be in person or online, on February 22nd with the same determination and positive attitude that they have shown throughout the opening weeks of 2021.

Yours sincerely

Marguerite Gorby Principal