Back to School Day for Parents of P1-2 Pupils

6 February 2013
HGS

• Vision: Leaders of character striving for excellence in a vibrant school
• Mission: To develop self-directed learners and critical and creative thinkers who lead and serve with integrity and compassion
• Values: Integrity, Commitment, Concern, Cooperation and Creativity

Motto: Knowledge is Power
School-Parent Partnership
Why does HGS value school-parent partnership?

• Our philosophy:
  – Parents are our partners.
  – A meaningful collaboration with our parents supports our students’ holistic development.

• Partnership goals: realisation of the HGS vision and mission, achievement of student-centric, values-driven education.
Principles of Partnership

• Trust
• Respect
• Pupil-centred focus
• Shared responsibility
• Shared goals and values
HGS Partnership Framework

- Trust
- Respect
- Shared Responsibility
- Shared Goals & Values
- Pupil-centred focus

Supporting innovation and improvement
Contributing to programmes
Sharing expertise and networks
Providing inputs on strategic directions

Student-Centric
Values-driven education

HGS
How HGS Involves Parents As Partners in Education
1) School-Parent Communication

• HGS keeps parents informed of
  – School expectations, programmes & activities
    E.g. letters, Briefing for Parents, emails
  – Child’s progress, behaviour and well-being
    E.g. phone calls from teachers, Parent-Child-Teacher
    Conferencing Session (post SA1)

• Channels of communication for parents: e.g. email, student handbook, phone call
2) Support for Learning

- HGS provides information to parents and equips them on how to support their child’s learning, e.g.
  - Curriculum Briefings / Workshops (P1-6)
  - Back to School Day for Parents of P1 & P2 Pupils
How parents can support the school’s efforts

• Take an interest in your child’s schoolwork
  – Ask: “What homework do you have today?”
  – Check the student handbook & homework file
  – Look through your child’s homework:
    • Are the answers neat and clearly-presented?
    • Are the corrections done?
    • What are the teachers’ comments?
    • What are the kinds of errors that my child tends to make?
How parents can support the school’s efforts

• Reinforce the school’s expectations of the quality of work expected, e.g.
  – Maths captions and answer statements with the correct units
How parents can support the school’s efforts

• Resilience building
  — Provide moral support, but don’t molly-coddle

• **Trust the teachers: check with the teachers and understand their perspective**
How parents can support the school’s efforts

• Provide a conducive environment for study
• Pupils’ attendance and punctuality
• Monitor use of computer and mobile devices
How parents can support the school’s efforts

• HGS manages pupils’ workload through its homework policy
  – Homework time norms for
    • P1 pupils: 0.5-1 hour a day on average (from Mon-Fri)
    • P2 pupils: 1-1.5 hours a day on average (from Mon-Fri)
How Parents can Support School Efforts

• HGS does not expect parents to provide private tuition
  – School provides a range of programmes to stretch all pupils
  – Teachers will coach pupils who need additional help
How Parents can Support School Efforts

• However, if parents do engage tutors,
  – Schoolwork and practice papers take priority over homework assigned by the tutor
  – Tutors should complement the school’s efforts
How Parents can Support School Efforts

• What happens if your child doesn’t know how to do her homework?
  – Do not do the homework for the child
  – Guide your child and ask her questions
  – If you or the tutor provided assistance, indicate next to the answer, ‘Guided by Parent / Tutor’
  – This will enable teachers to know what your child can or cannot do
How to Support Your Child

• Take care of her holistic well-being
  – Adequate rest and exercise and a balanced diet ➔ a more alert mind and healthy body

• Unconditional love and acceptance
How to Support Your Child

• Believe in her
• Encourage and Affirm your child – catch her doing right, accentuate the positive
• Make time for your child
Leaders of Character

- Gracious,
- Resilient,
- Articulate,
- Civic-minded, Confident, Creative, and
- Expressive
Thank You

Haig Girls’ School

Character       Leadership       Creativity

Established in 1951