

July 2010 Newsletter – High School

Orientation Days for New High School Students and Parents

All **new high school day students and parents** are invited to a meeting **on Friday 27th August** in the auditorium on the top floor of the Eiger building. The day will start at 10.15am with a welcome and introduction to the high school and will then move into small group sessions by grade, led by the heads of the academic departments, to choose courses for the coming year. Parents may then leave or take some fresh air! After lunch (students may bring a packed lunch or make use of our cafeteria facility) short placement tests in English and mathematics will be given, these ending at approximately 4pm, at which time students may be collected by their parents.

To alleviate the problem of parking, parents are encouraged to use the car park at La Bécassière (Versoix Sports Centre). A morning shuttle service will be provided between the car park and the school.

For **new boarding students and their parents**, a similar set of welcome and orientation meetings and placement tests will be held on **Monday 30th August**, in the Eiger Auditorium, starting at 9am.

First day of school

School begins for **all high school students** on **Tuesday 31st August**. Parents of new students and those returning students signed up for the bus service are invited to use the car park at La Bécassière (Versoix Sports Centre). There will be a continuous shuttle service to the campus from 7.15am. Students should arrive well in time for the 8.15am start and should make their way to the car park between the Cervin and Jura buildings. They should look for their names on one of the class lists and wait for their teacher to join the group. During the first two periods this teacher will assist the group of students with any issues concerning their option choices and with their daily timetable. The daily timetable will commence period 3. For the first day, students are encouraged to arrive with basic stationery but all school books and other requirements will be arranged with the teacher as classes in each subject get underway.

And from the Student Government

The student government executive committee of the 2010-2011 school year will be holding a back-to-school party in the grounds of Concha Blanca during the afternoon of the first day of school. There will be plenty to do and to eat and the student government will be looking forward to welcoming all students to the new school year!

But not to forget the bus

Buses do not bring students to school on the first day but will be lined up and ready to take them home after school. Students who have signed up for this service must leave the back-to-school party at 3.10pm to ensure that they find the correct bus before its scheduled departure time at 3.50pm. Lists of names of students taking each bus will be posted.

And looking ahead just a little further

In addition to the extra-curricular activities offered at CDL, we will continue to provide and develop an academic support programme in three main categories:

- Supervised study

If a student does not require specific homework assistance, but would like to have access to a place which favours independent study on his/her homework or class work, he/she will be able to take part in the supervised study programme, which will be organised between 4.00 and 5.25pm. A supervisor will ensure a quiet environment conducive to serious study. This type of activity will be beneficial for autonomous students who wish to further their daily work prior to returning home.

- Homework Support – Assistance by Subject

At the end of the school day, high school students will be able to start their homework and study their class work under the supervision of subject teachers. **Supplementary academic assistance and basic knowledge reinforcement will enable students to leave the school at 5.25pm with the satisfaction that their homework is completed!**

- Particular areas of interest

Proposed by a teacher, or a group of students of the same grade, for a single subject or a number of subjects, these units will allow students to reinforce and deepen their knowledge of an academic area; for example, to prepare exams (such as SAT*) for admission to some universities or to participate in academic clubs (science, math, history, Chinese).

These units will provide the flexibility required to cover the varying interests of our students. Suggestions for units to study will be welcomed.

Those interested in participating in one of these three academic support options are encouraged to check the details and use the sign-up form available on our website (www.cdl.ch, activities section).

* The SAT Preparation Program is designed to encompass Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary, Writing, and Mathematical skills, the three modules encountered in the SAT examination. This program will cover general and specific techniques that will help the student to achieve success. The program will be fifteen hours in duration over a three week period (one day after school for two hours and a Saturday morning for three hours). Two sessions will be offered, one in the fall and one in the spring - the fall session will give priority to grade 12 students but otherwise, all students of Collège du Léman are welcome to sign up (with a student limit of eighteen per session). Students will be expected to complete sample questions and tests outside and during the sessions.

Getting Started

We are looking forward to meeting soon with our new day and boarding students (and parents where possible) and then with all returning students on the first day of term.

Details of the arrangements for Friday 27th August (new day students), Monday 30th August (new boarding students) and Tuesday 31st August (all high school students) can be found in the enclosed document.