



30 September 2009

Dear Parents

I am sure that by now you will have read of the proposed delayed school openings in the press.

Unfortunately, any announcement regards these changes have come via the press and not directly from the Ministry of Education. As the Ministry was closed over the Eid break, we (together with all other private schools) were unable to verify any of the information that was appearing in the newspaper.

I was, of course, reluctant to implement any changes until we were able to confirm directly with the Ministry the situation as applicable to us.

This morning I attended a meeting with the Ministry and I can now confirm that, unfortunately, we received very firmly worded clarification that we were to remain closed until 1 November.

I am bitterly disappointed to hear this as I am as anxious to open as you are. The situation is far from desirable and I do wish it could have been otherwise - but as I have stated before this is out of our control.

Naturally, our biggest concern is how to make up the lost tuition time. To which case we have implemented the following changes to the school year:

- the May Labour day holiday has been cancelled and school will open May 3rd.
- the school will not close as planned for the day of the Grand Prix
- school will remain open 1 hour longer each day for the remainder of the year (2pm daily finish)

The extended hours and the forfeit of the two holidays mean in effect that we are able to make up over 98 % of our original planned hours.

In addition to the above changes and the earlier homework packs, will also be in contact with you over the next few days to arrange, if agreeable, a home visit from your teacher and where applicable a home visit from the Therapists.

Rather than bombard you with more information now I shall contact you again closer to the opening date with more information as to the format of the school day with the longer opening hours.

I sincerely thank everyone for their patience and understanding – this has been as frustrating for me and the school as it has for you as parents.

Yours sincerely


Greg McDermald
Headmaster

