



# AISTS

A PUBLICATION OF  
OLASHORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL

VOL. 24 NO. 3  
JUL. 2018



Alumni graduate  
with first class degrees  
from U.K. Varsity

Two alumni make  
Forbes Africa  
Under 30 list  
for 2018

Students receive  
COBIS Student  
Achievement Awards

Olashore emerges  
national champions  
at Akintola Williams  
National Youth Debate

**LEADERSHIP**

**OLASHORE  
INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOOL**

**Goes Green**



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# School Transport Service

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**LAGOS**

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The school is aware of the efforts Parents and Guardians make to come to school each visiting day, resumption and end of term. We would like to let you know that if you are unable to make each trip personally, parents in Lagos, Port Harcourt and Abuja have come together to arrange group transport system from those cities to school on key dates.

If you are interested in your child or yourself joining these organised transports, please contact the parents listed below.

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### Abuja

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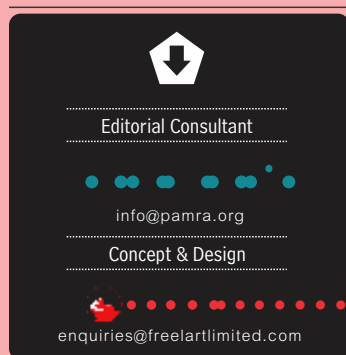


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# Leadership through Service

*"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." - Mahatma Gandhi*

A wise person once said that leadership is about being of service to others and not being served by others. At Olashore International School, we place so much emphasis on leadership development that it is embedded in our mission statement and integrated across the curriculum. We believe that service is a powerful vehicle for developing students' leadership capabilities. While all students in the school attend the leadership classes, they also seek avenues to put into practice what they have learnt; such avenues include community service and projects which are implemented internally or externally.

This year, students in Year 8 and 9 decided they wanted to contribute to creating a healthy learning environment that will benefit current and future students and the school as a whole so they decided to go green. Their 'Go Green Project' is the focus of this edition's cover story.

The year was an exciting one for us in the school as we celebrated major milestones. The term began on a high note as we emerged as the winner of the 2018 edition of Akintola Williams National Youth Debate finals. While we savoured the



victory, the school was informed that a student, Halima Salaudeen was being recognised by the British Council for achieving the best result nationally in economics in the IGCSE examination. It will be recalled that earlier in the year, we celebrated the students' IGCSE and JAMB-UTME results as the best in the history of the school. Still on awards, two students Chidera and Taslim also received the 2018 COBIS Student Achievement Awards this term.

National and international success is not only the preserve of current students as two of our alumni, Obinna Okwodu and Folarin Falana (popularly known as Falz) were selected in the 2018 Forbes Africa

30-Under-30 list for outstanding young tech entrepreneurs and creatives.

We love to follow the progress of our graduates from higher institution into the working world. This year Olashore alumni continue to graduate with first-class degrees from leading universities across the world. In this edition, we feature three of them - Abdul-Hafiz Alako, Oluwatobi Agbaje and Oluwatunmike Olowe.

It was a pleasure to have Mr Bankole Alao as the special guest of honour at the 20th Valedictory Service. Mr Alao, a pioneer student, was the first Deputy Head Boy and his presence at the occasion was a delight to the students.

As always, this edition features content that shows the school's commitment to ensuring that graduates are prepared to lead in the 21st century. As you read the magazine we hope that you are able to gain a glimpse into why we say "all students deserve an Olashore Education". Feel free to send in your comments, questions or suggestions to [oasis@olashoreschool.com](mailto:oasis@olashoreschool.com). Don't forget to follow us on all our social media handles @olashoreschool.

We look forward to hearing from you. ■

*The Oasis Magazine Team*



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**For the record**  
The next frontier  
after OIS



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Oluwatunmike  
Graduates with  
First Class Degree



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Alumnus Bags  
First Class Degree  
from U.K. Varsity



Welcome to the final edition of Oasis for this session. This has been an exciting and successful year. The Valedictory Service last month was a great opportunity to celebrate with the graduating Year 12 students all that they and the school have achieved during the past twelve months. It was a pleasure to welcome back Bankole Alao, the pioneer Deputy Head Boy of the school. Bankole is a member of the first set, joining the school in January 1994. As a school we are very proud of the success of our alumni. Bankole had stories of the success of many Olashore alumni. He told us of his own experience working with leading tech companies before setting up his own business to use technology to improve lives in Nigeria. His message that leaders solve problems resonated with the graduating set and all students across the school.

Welcoming back alumni to share their experience with students is a great opportunity for Olashore International School as we enter our twenty-fifth anniversary year. The school has a rich history of successful alumni and it has been great to see that continuing this year. It is an outstanding honour to have two of our alumni recognised by Forbes in their Under-30 list for Africa as amongst the young people with the greatest potential to succeed across the continent. This success runs across the years as we were able to celebrate many of our alumni who graduated this year with first class degrees both in Nigeria and from leading universities abroad. This term we were also able to celebrate the success of our more recent graduates as Halima received her award from Cambridge International Examinations for achieving the top mark in IGCSE Economics in Nigeria in October/November 2016.

Within school, this term has also seen the growth and development of many new talents. Term 3 is when the new prefects begin to take on their roles as the Year 12 students prepare to graduate. There is increasing competition for prefect positions in the school as so many of our students progress through the leadership programme, gaining the skills necessary to be successful not just in school but also after they graduate. The new prefects have already organised a number of successful events with the mid-term carnival being particularly appreciated by the students.

Talent also shows itself in many



Mr. D.K. Smith, Principal & CEO

other ways across the school. It has been a pleasure to see increasing numbers of students displaying their musical talents in whole school assembly. The increased number of sporting fixtures with other schools this year has seen younger students given the opportunity to display their skills while our continued success in debate and public speaking competitions was recognised by Chidera receiving an award from COBIS as well as an invitation to spend a week at the British Council following her success at the Akintola Williams Debate competition.

Finally, let me just congratulate all staff and students involved in the wide range of leadership development

activities that have taken place this term. The cover story of the magazine showcases the remarkable initiative and determination of younger students to have a positive impact in the school. The report on the Year 10 community service and the messages I have received both from local community leaders and the health authority testify to the impact the students have beyond the school gates and the COBIS award for Taslim, our Head Boy, for the work he has done to support displaced people in Nigeria shows that the students are truly learning that leadership is about service and having a positive impact on the community. 📌



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The Burj Khalifa is regarded as the tallest building and man-made structure in the world. It stands at 828metres. It was designed by Adrian Smith in 2006 and completed in 2009. Its shape is said to be inspired by indigenous desert flowers common in Islamic architecture. Its design is not only aesthetic but helps to make the structure stronger.

Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Wishing is not enough; we must do.  
**Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe**

For every reason it's not possible, there are hundreds of people who have faced the same circumstances and succeeded.  
**Jack Canfield**

It is better to offer no excuse than a bad one.  
**George Washington**

Dare to live the life you have dreamed for yourself. Go forward and make your dreams come true.  
**Ralph Waldo Emerson**

Great minds discuss ideas. Average minds discuss events. Small minds discuss people.  
**Henry Thomas Buckle**

Reading is to the mind, as exercise is to the body.  
**Brian Tracy**

What you lack in talent can be made up with desire, hustle and giving 110% all the time.  
**Don Zimmer, Professional baseball player and coach**

Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do.  
**H. Jackson Brown Jr.**

Whoever is careless with the truth in small matters cannot be trusted with important matters.  
**Albert Einstein**

The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.  
**Walt Disney**

Today's accomplishments were yesterday's impossibilities.  
**Robert H. Schuller**

I think goals should never be easy; they should force you to work, even if they are uncomfortable at the time.  
**Michael Phelps**



# Olashore alumni make **AFRICA** **Forbes**

## Under 30 list for 2018



Folarin Falana

Each year, Forbes features some of the brightest young minds in the Under 30 list across various continents. The people that make the list cut across three categories- business, technology and creative.

This year, two alumni made it to the list: Obinna Okwodu and Folarin Falana known as Falz.

Obinna Okwodu, who is 27 and the founder of Fibre, was listed in the technology category. Obinna graduated from Olashore International School in 2008. On graduation, he went on to study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MIT. While at MIT, Obinna co-founded Exposure Robotics Academy, a six-week summer robotics training camp that teaches secondary school students how to program robots. After graduation, he worked with Morgan Stanley in New York before returning to Nigeria. In 2016, he founded Fibre, a real estate booking startup that allows middle-income tenants to rent homes and pay monthly. The company is said to employ 11 people, and has raised 630,000 dollars in funding as well as booked over a million dollars in tenant revenue.

Folarin Falana, who is also 27, was

listed in the creative category. The creatives are young people making waves across different industries such as music, art, media, film and fashion. Folarin graduated from Olashore International School in 2006. He is the founder of Bahd Guys Records. Falz started singing as a hobby while at Olashore where he formed a music group with a friend called 'The

***"The 2018  
FORBES AFRICA  
Under 30 is a list of  
Africa's most  
promising young  
change-makers.  
This compilation is  
exciting, inspiring  
and offers a sneak  
peek into Africa's  
future."***



Obinna Okwodu

School Boys'. As an artiste, he has received various nominations and awards both locally and internationally including the International Viewers' Choice Award from BET in 2016 and AFRIMMA for 'Best Male Act in West Africa' in 2017. He has appeared in a number of movies and series. His role in Jenifa's Diary won him the 2016 AMVCA for 'Best Actor in a Comedy'.

According to Forbes, "We put in months of rigorous research, sifting through over 600 nominations, vetting them for weeks, verifying and investigating them. We favoured entrepreneurs with fresh ideas and took into account their business size, revenue, location, potential, struggles, social impact and resilience. A panel of judges then debated the final 90. You may not know many of their names now and they may not be richest people in Africa, but they could be the billionaires of tomorrow gracing our future covers. This compilation is exciting, inspiring and offers a sneak peek into Africa's future."

The Forbes Africa Under 30 is in its fourth year and is Forbes' authentic and most definitive list of Africa's most promising young change-makers. ■



## Principal Smith Speaks at BETT Conference

## New Prefects Get Sworn-in

By Taslim Salaudeen and Dabiri Ojuoluwa

The newly elected prefects and house captains were officially sworn-in during the first assembly of the term. The new prefects were called up on stage and took the oath of office led by the Leadership & Social Responsibility Coordinator, Mrs Folowosele.

The outgoing prefects and house captains also came up on stage to receive the badge of office from the Prefects Liaison Officer, Mr Julian to decorate the new prefects. This symbolized the handover from a predecessor to successor. This act was followed by a round of applause for the outgoing prefects.

All students and members of staff were present for the swearing-in ceremony. ■



The Principal and CEO of Olashore International School, Mr D.K. Smith was invited to be part of the panel of discussion on International Schools in Focus at the BETT MEA 2018, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirate.

The event was organised to discover ways to implement policies and technologies to keep schools ahead of the curve. Mr Smith was part of this cutting-edge discussion to bring solutions to education internationally. The Olashore leadership programme was at the centre of discussion at the event as the Principal shared how the programme based on the Social Change Model of Leadership can develop leadership skills in the students while simultaneously having a positive impact on the local community. ■

## Halima Achieves Highest Score in IGCSE Economics



Former Deputy Head Girl, Halima Salaudeen has been recognized by the British Council and Cambridge International Examinations for achieving the highest score in economics in the IGCSE

examination in October/ November 2016. It will be recalled that in the 2015 examination, another student Mofiyinfoluwa Okupe, was recognized for having the highest score in the English Language. ■



## Olashore Wins Akintola Williams National Youth Debate Finals

Olashore International School emerged as the winner of the 2018 edition of the Akintola Williams National Youth Debate. The finals were held at Meadow Hall College in Lagos State.

The school was represented by Chidera Olalere, Lateefah Mutiu and Netochukwu Kalu. Chidera Olalere was declared the best speaker for the event. The Olashore debate team beat the zonal winners from across Nigeria to emerge as the national champion.

Commenting on the award, Mr D.K. Smith, the Principal and CEO, said 'Students at Olashore School achieve outstanding success academically, however, in addition to this the school is committed to the development of core skills that students will need to succeed in the 21st century. These include confidence, public speaking, research and being able to make a cogent argument. Our success in external competitions such as the Akintola Williams National

Youth Debate is a reflection of our students' progress in these areas.

'These three students, along with their teachers have worked really hard and I am very proud of their performance. They have represented the school well both by their performance and their behaviour. It is a well-deserved victory.'

As a reward for her success, Chidera has been offered the opportunity to spend a week at the British Council office in Lagos. She will visit departments across the organisation learning how global businesses work and the impact of the British Council in Nigeria. She will also play a role in preparing for the Cambridge International Examinations Awards Event.

The Akintola Williams National Youth Debate is an annual event organised by the Nigeria-Britain Association in conjunction with Association of International School Educators of Nigeria, AISEN, in honour of Mr Akintola Williams. ■

# Taslim, Chidera Receive COBIS Award



**T**wo students, Chidera Olalere (Year 10) and Taslim Salaudeen (Year 11), have received the 2018 COBIS Student Achievement Awards. Chidera Olalere was recognized for her 'Sustained, High-level Contribution to the Wider Life of the School', and Taslim Salaudeen for 'A Single Act of Bravery'. The students were awarded at the COBIS Annual Conference in London in May.

The award is given in the following categories: Outstanding Academic Achievement; Sustained, High-level Contributions to the Wider Life of the School; Significant Contributions to the School's Charity Fundraising Activities and A Single Act of Bravery.

Chidera received the award for her immense contribution to the debate and public speaking in the school. She has participated in and won many internal and external competitions ranging from academics to sports since she joined the school in Year 7. Noteworthy has been her outstanding performances at inter-house public speaking competitions as well as inter-house debate

competitions. Externally, she has represented the school at state competitions, AISEN organised public speaking competitions and debates and more recently, the Akintola Williams National Debate where her team came first and she was recognized as the best speaker.

Taslim, on the other hand, has over the years demonstrated his desire to support and assist the less privileged through his constant donation of relief materials. He has participated in several fundraising activities in the school along with his peers. In December 2017, Taslim initiated and executed a fundraising campaign to help meet some of the needs of Internally Displaced Persons living in a camp named Sesor in Lagos, Nigeria, due to the Boko Haram terrorist insurgencies. He was successful at this as he donated a total sum of N300, 000 to Sesor before returning to school in January.

The Council of British International Schools, COBIS, is a membership association of British International Schools of global quality and corporate supporting members, representing over 500 member organisations.■

## Olashore organises higher education fair

**T**he school is committed to ensuring that all Year 12 students progress to leading universities in Nigeria, Ghana, United Kingdom, United States, South Africa and other parts of the world.

As part of this commitment, a higher education fair was organised with a network of colleges and universities to provide Year 12 students with a wide range of opportunities to further develop their academic excellence, personalized educational experience and skills to compete in a global environment.

The fair provided students with higher education opportunities across the world with details of suitable courses available

at a wide range of quality universities and study institutions. Scholarship information was also provided to both parents and students for consideration by the partner institutions based on set criteria.

Nine institutions participated in the fair: Abbey DLD Colleges, UK; University

of Hertfordshire, UK; Oak-Dexter Consult / Navitas, Canada; African Leadership University, Mauritius; Lancaster University Ghana; Babcock University, Ogun State; Pan-Atlantic University, Lagos State; Bridge House College, Lagos State and Brookline Consult, Lagos State.

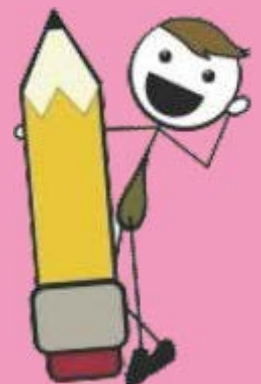


## We Want To Hear Your Views & Comments!

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# World Leaders

Search for names of ten world leaders in the puzzle

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KENYATTA  
TRUDEAU  
PUTIN  
MERKEL

RAMAPHOSA  
MACRON  
TRUMP

BUHARI  
JINPING  
MAY

# Healthy habits for living well

**L**eaders are deliberate people because they know that success is not a coincidence or stroke of luck. Leaders decide what they want to achieve, map out how to get there and actively engage in activities that get them there.

As a school poised for great impact in this dynamic global society, we know that forming good health habits is key in raising strong and healthy children and maintaining a good workforce. Healthy habits formed now will also prolong lives to achieve their goals and enjoy successes in great health. Here are some ways you can be deliberate in living well to achieve your life goals.

## 1. Choose healthier drinks

For many now, grabbing a soft drink at least once daily has become a habit. This results in undesirable health effects like excess weight gain, poor dental health and even addiction as some of these drinks contain caffeine. Make healthier choices like avoiding carbonated drinks and energy drinks that include large amounts of caffeine and opting for drinks like 100 percent fruit juices, low-fat milk, which provide vitamins A & B, calcium, magnesium and protein that are essential for good growth. Another option is to make healthy smoothies. Water is also a better alternative to sugar-laden soft drinks.

## 2. Choose healthier portions

Maintain a healthy weight. Emphasis should not be on how robust and chubby one is but on what weight is healthy and acceptable for the age (in children) and for the height (in adults). Opt for fresh rather than processed foods as often as you can and take healthy snacks. Eat healthy portions and increase fruits and vegetable intake.

## 3. Healthy recreational options

Reduce indoor/TV/computer game time and encourage outdoor play/activities. Watching more than an hour or two of TV everyday reduces the time available for other recreational activities and impairs physical and mental development.

Physical exercise for is of great benefit in promoting cardiac, respiratory and muscular fitness; also promotes good mental health. However, not everyone loves sports. Keep trying different activities till you find the one you love or can do. Physical activity includes play,



games, sports, transportation, chores, recreation, physical education, or planned exercise, in the context of family, school, and community activities.

## 4. Read everyday

Developing strong reading skills now is an essential component of success in school and at work. Readers are said to be leaders and it is true as reading makes you more knowledgeable, opens up worlds of adventures, builds your self esteem and helps you pass exams too!

## 5. Spend time with friends and the people you love

Maintaining good relationships is a vital part of good mental health. Interacting with friends and others build up social skills such as communication, cooperation and problem solving. You also help your friends by providing a support system they can rely on.

## 6. Contribute to society

Every person can make a difference to the society if they have the will to do so. You need not donate millions of naira to feed the hungry or do some heroic act in order to make a difference. Little acts of

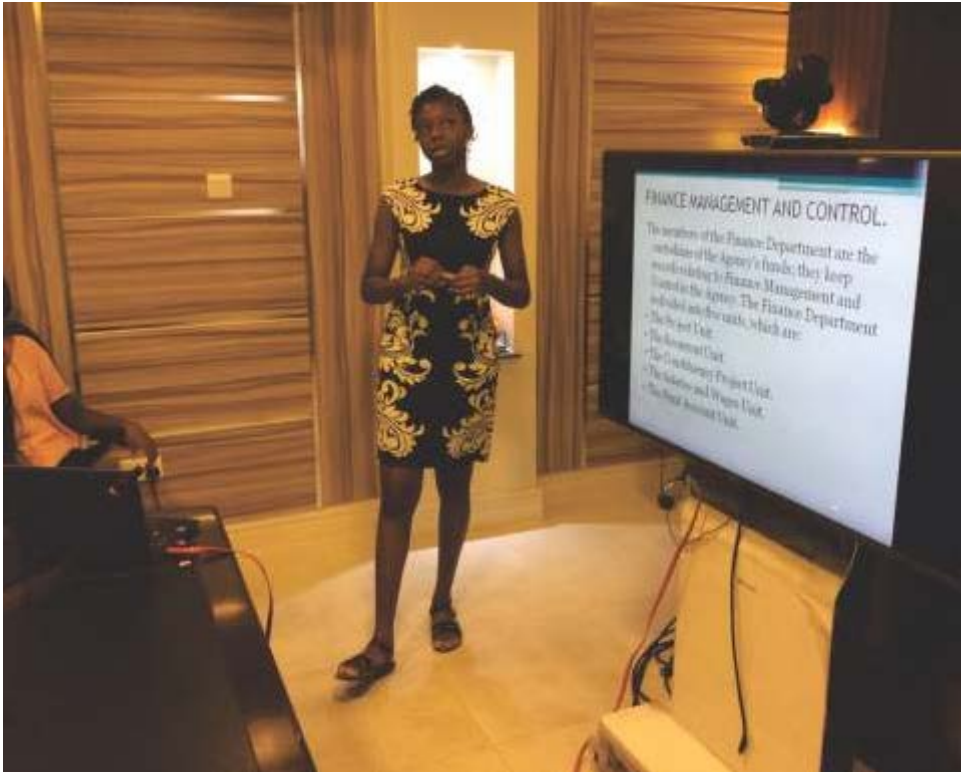
kindness, small changes in lifestyles and being a responsible part of the society will do the trick. I borrow a leaf from Olashore International School students who have imbibed this virtue and display it in their numerous selfless leadership projects. You can plant a tree, start a garden, volunteer at the community health centre, do something beneficial for the local children, manage waste properly, give to the needy. Just contribute to society!

## 7. Keep improving the quality of your life

Quality of life, as defined here, is the sum total of your health, happiness, vitality, leisure, and income. Adhering to good habits has been identified as a major route to improving the quality of your life. In the face of rising economic challenges the world over, increasing terrorism and social vices amongst others; there needs to be a ready plan to cope and stay positive in the face of challenges. Adhering to habits that increase your happiness, income and sense of fulfilment will no doubt improve the quality of life.

In the words of Dieter F. Uchtdorf, "Now is the best time to start becoming the person we eventually want to be, not only 20 years from now but also for all eternity".





## My NITDA Internship Experience

By Oyindamola Olatunji

**M**y two-week internship was carried out at the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), a federal government agency, concerned with the development of technology in Nigeria.

### Day 1

The first day of my internship was a Tuesday because Monday was part of the Easter break granted to workers all over Nigeria. On this day I was given a tour and told all about NITDA, how it came into existence, its purpose and its core values.



I was also introduced to the people I would work with and the expectations from me.

### Day 2

I was told all about the Human Resources and Administrative department, and its divisions which include the store, the open registry, human resource, internal relations and welfare and the general administration unit. I was put in the store unit for the day to learn how it works.

### Day 3

I was put in the open registry where all the files in the agency are kept for reference purposes. I was told about how the files are sent to the registry and why. I spent the rest of my day learning all about the registry.

### Day 4

I was sent to the Human Resource unit. I learnt about the place of the unit in the organisation. I wasn't exactly able to help them with anything.

### Day 5

This was my second week; I was taken to the Legal unit where I met the Director of the unit. The director spoke to me all about

law and what it involves. He also told me all about what the lawyers did in the agency and about how they were a unit under the DG's department. We spent quite some time talking and I learnt a lot.

### Day 6

I was posted to SERVICOM which is simply an acronym for Service Compact. The Director in charge of this unit was very busy so he gave me the service charter to learn all about SERVICOM from it. It proved extremely useful because from the charter I was able to learn a little bit more about all the other departments in the agency. I ended up helping him with the minimal tasks that he needed help with.

### Day 7

I was put in the Finance Management and Control department where I was educated about how the finances in the agency were handled, the departments that had access and who was allowed to approve any finances required for projects. After learning as much as I could about this unit I had to leave because they already had other interns that helped. I was called back to SERVICOM where I spent the rest of the day.

### Day 8

I was taken to the Internal Audit unit where I actually spent the whole day learning about what they did, about who was in charge and why they were considered important. This was the unit where I was extremely useful as I was given things to do like typing documents, passing files on to other units and departments.

### Day 9

I gave a presentation on all I had learnt in the agency, the few problems I had encountered and recommended ways I felt the agency could improve. My presentation was attended by some HODs and members of staff. After my presentation, those present gave their opinions on my presentation and also asked me questions.

### Day 10

This was my final day, I went to the agency to show my appreciation to everyone that I worked with during my stay and bid them farewell. 📌

*Oyindamola Olatunji is in Year 11*





## Vision Day 2018

By Oluwajomiloju Tunde-Oladipo

Every June 1st, part of the school's hourly activities are shifted to make way for the school's annual Vision Day ceremony. This is to commemorate our Founder Oba Oladele Olashore and his vision for the school.

At this year's occasion, the founder's vision for the school was read out by the Chairman, Prince Abimbola Olashore to the whole school. He spoke extensively on the role everyone had to play in this vision to ensure that the school continues to improve and is on the right track. The school orchestra and the cultural group entertained all present.





## Beyond the Classroom: Students visit the Rainbow Nation



By Chinedu Nwachukwu

**T**he trip to South Africa, also known as the Rainbow Nation, was surely one to remember. The trip was a mix of leadership, education, teamwork and hard work. The students accompanied by staff arrived in South Africa excited and were welcomed by Ms Shirine and Madam Laure. They lodged in a nearby hotel called The Aviator Hotel.

The group visited Soweto

first. In Soweto, they were taken on a tour of Nelson Mandela's house and learnt a lot about Mandela's move to stop the apartheid as well as his time in prison. From there, the group moved to Hector Pieterse Park and then Soccer City to see the stadium used for 2010 World Cup. The group also visited the Lion's Park, where they went on safari rides and played with lion cubs, and the African Leadership Academy. They were shown around the

academy by Halima Salaudeen and Ibukun Agbaje, who are alumni of Olashore School.

From Soweto, the group moved to Cape Town after a 27-hour train ride where they got to see beautiful sceneries. In Cape Town, the students lodged at the Protea Hotel and visited the Table Mountain, Signal Hill and the Slave Lodge Museum. The hill was significant in the olden days because they could use a flare gun to shoot into the

sky just to show the sailors that it was 12 noon. As leadership is at the core of an Olashore education, a leadership programme was incorporated into the trip. The last day of the trip was spent at the mall shopping and taking last minute pictures. 📸

*Chinedu Nwachukwu is the Special Duty Prefect*





EVENT





# Students travel to the U.K. on school excursion

A group of students travelled to the U.K. as part of the school's learning beyond the classroom experience.

Places visited included Edinburgh, Liverpool and Manchester. While in the U.K., the students stayed at the YMCA camp. At the camp, they

were involved in various activities including king swing, obstacle course, zip line, crate stacking, abseiling, mountain climbing and canoeing along Lake Windermere, the largest lake in the Lake District.

In Edinburgh, Scotland they took a tour of the parliament and had a session

with a member of parliament. It was an exciting opportunity for the students to ask questions.

The students spent some time in a U.K. school where they played soccer with the students and had lunch with them in their refectory. They visited the Roman Museum and Hadrian's Wall. They

learned how to write Roman cursive during a Roman class with a holographic teacher.

Dr Unger and his friends entertained the group with Nigerian food.

The trip ended with students going shopping to buy souvenirs before returning to Nigeria. ■







# A reward for hard work!

By Letam Patrick-Bienwi

**T**he reward for success, after a long stressful Continuous Assessment (CA) filled with blood, sweat and tears. The singular motivation for it all, that is, in itself its own reward- the Principal's Barbecue!

The Principal's Barbecue is a gathering where the top five students and best in each year group in junior and senior classes, Head of Junior School (HoJS) and staff spend an evening with the Principal at the Principal's Lodge.

We had barbecue chicken, chips and salad before the movie to be complemented with ice cream and cake at the end of the movie. The highlight of the evening was the movie 'SING'. I was so excited because I had never watched the movie and my peers had told me a whole lot about it.

What made me so happy about the barbecue was the fact that the efforts put into that CA was not in vain and I was rewarded. Prior to this, there had been countless times when all my effort had been put into a particular CA, but the results remained the same. Then I realized I was getting it all wrong. When I found out my problem, I started to use the SMART target and it wasn't long before I was invited for my first barbecue.

My word of advice to my fellow students is to keep striving, always work hard, don't give up and use the SMART target and it's only a matter of time before you are invited to the Principal's Barbecue.

I look forward to many more. 🙌

*Letam Patrick-Bienwi is in Year 8.*





# Students refurbish community health centre



By Chidera Olalere and Netochukwu Kalu

Community project is an integral part of the Olashore Leadership Programme carried out by all Year 10 students in term 2 of each academic session. Prior to carrying out the project, students meet with the elders to agree on a project for the community.


This year, it was agreed that the students refurbish the Iloko Community Health Centre which was built over 18 years ago.

The students worked in small groups, with appointed captains, to sweep, clean, heap and dispose of litters, scrape out worn out paint, mix the paints, and eventually paint the walls, gates, beds and fence of the health centre.

Although a lot of work went into the project, the students enjoyed the process as they got to spend more time with their peers contributing positively to

the community. Many were seen laughing, dancing, and playing soccer and volleyball games during the stipulated daily breaks. While carrying out the project, the students demonstrated key leadership skills such as collaboration, compromise,

responsibility and most importantly, appreciation.

On completion of the project, the students received commendations from both the town and the state health board for their work. 





## Seyi emerges as Snack Master

By Adetola Adefiranye

**S**eyi Ogungbesan has emerged as Snack Master in the Home Makers' Snack Master Competition while Favour Adeniyi and Toyosi Baruwa took second and third place respectively.

Participants were judged based on certain criteria including neatness of the work area, preparation, presentation and taste of the snacks. Mrs Adeniyi, Head of Year 7 and Ms Esele, Head of Boarding served as the judges.

The competition was open to only members of the club. **Adetola Adefiranye is in Year 8**







## Celebrating the Nigerian Child

By Temilade Ladejobi

Children's Day celebration in Olashore was marked with interesting activities for the students. It began with five students - Munachi Okey-Nzeakor, Monfus Olanipekun, Oyindamola Olatunji, Chidera Olalere and Chimmy Chidi-Ogbaji visiting two local radio stations where they read the morning news in different languages. Munachi Okey-Nzeakor, Oyindamola Olatunji and Monfus Olanipekun were at Gold FM 95.5 while Chidera Olalere and Chimmy Chidi-Ogbaji were at UNIQ FM 103.1. The students were thrilled to listen to their broadcast which was part of the day's surprise.

This was followed by the Children's Day Assembly at 9 am. Children's Day Assembly was held in the school hall and featured a poem presented by Mr Julian Ezuma, a parade led by the school social prefects, a song rendition presented by the Year 9 female students, the selection of student management staff for the day. Zayyad Dahiru was selected as the Principal & CEO while Toyosi Babatunde was the Vice Principal & Head of School.

The assembly ended at 9.45 am and students moved to the stadium for the march past. The march past commenced with the junior category in the order of Red House, Yellow House, Blue House and Green House and then the senior category in the same order. Red and Yellow Houses emerged as winners in the junior and senior categories respectively.

By 2.30 pm all students moved out to the Water Meadow for the Children's Day Carnival. The carnival ended by 5.30 pm officially marking the end of the celebrations. 🎉



*Temilade Ladejobi is the Female Social Prefect*





## Students celebrate staff on Workers' Day

By Oyindamola Olatunji

On the 1st of May, 2018, Olashore staff joined their counterparts from across the world to celebrate the International Workers' Day. The newly sworn-in prefects and house captains of Olashore International School organised a programme to show their appreciation to all the members of staff.

Academic activities for the day were cancelled providing students and staff a

work-free day. All students and staff were led to the school hall for the Workers' Day Special Assembly. The Head Girl, Faith Unah opened the assembly with a welcome address where she praised the staff for their commitment and diligence in ensuring that the school is safe for everyone.

The special assembly also featured an occupation parade, tribute to workers by Chinaza Okey-Nzeakor, a presentation on the history of Workers' Day by

Government students in Year 10, appreciation of staff by students in Yoruba, Igbo, Hausa, Chinese, Italian, English, Spanish and French. The assembly ended with a round of applause given to all workers.

After the special assembly, everyone moved to the school stadium for the Workers' Day Parade. This was followed by a whole school photograph after which everyone retired for the day. ☐



# Leadership through Service

## Olashore International School Goes Green



*Leadership is service, not a position -Tim Fargo*

**A**s a result of increasing complexity and changes in society, greater emphasis is now being placed on leadership as a key skill needed to succeed in the 21st century. The school sees developing leadership as one of its key responsibilities to students; hence it is embedded in the mission statement and curriculum. Leadership is seen as establishing direction and influencing others to follow that direction. The social change model of leadership, which the school adopts, understands effective leaders as those who are able to effect positive change on behalf of others and society. Leadership therefore is not a position rather a process, and service is

the most powerful type of leadership. Service therefore is the vehicle to develop leadership capabilities especially in the students.

At Olashore, leadership is a transformational process, which is future focused and innovative. Students learn to influence rather than control, to focus on people's strength and listen rather than give orders. They are encouraged to be self-aware, strategic and persuasive. We believe effective leaders make positive impacts; amongst their peers, in the school community and in the immediate local community. This belief has birthed thoughtful leadership projects carried out by the students of the school.

This year, students in Year 8 and 9 decided they wanted to contribute to

creating a healthy learning environment that will benefit all students, teachers and the school as a whole so the groups decided to go green.

Agriculture, as we all know, is an important aspect of any economy. This makes it an important part of the school curriculum. Agriculture is taught as a subject across the school and the school farm is an opportunity for students to develop their practical knowledge. The activities of the farm include growing of crops, apiculture and rabbit rearing.

Apiculture is also known as bee keeping. The school apiary has twenty hives where honeycombs are collected by experts and taken to the laboratory. Pressing of the honeycombs to extract the pure honey is carried out in the laboratory under hygienic condition with

the use of the honey presser by the Year 8 students and sterilized bottles for packaging. 60 litres of honey were produced this year and there are plans to increase production for the next season. The students are also involved in the sales of the processed honey mainly to parents and staff.

Students have also gained tremendous knowledge on the rearing of rabbits with practicals being conducted in biology classes for students in the senior school. There are two hutches in the science quadrangle with three does and seven bunnies. Visitors to the school often visit the science block and enjoy seeing the rabbits in the hutches.

Building on their experience in their agriculture lessons and the leadership challenge to have a positive impact on the school community, Year 8 students decided to use the school farm as the basis for their project. Observing that vegetables make up a large part of their diet within the school they decided to increase the range and amount of vegetables grown on the farm. The crops they focused on included tomatoes, amaranthus, okra and maize. They are confident these crops will be used by the


kitchen staff in preparing their meals, benefiting the school community.

Students in Year 9, on the other hand, chose to focus on the long-term development of the school environment. Their project focused on tree planting across the school compound. In recent years some of the trees within the school have had to be removed due to their age, the growth of their roots close to the foundations of buildings and the risk of them being damaged in storms. Through their lessons in basic science the students were keenly aware of the impact of deforestation on the environment both locally and globally. This was a key driver in their choice of reforestation as their project.

As the students were aware that the planting of trees is a complex issue and they wanted future generations of students to benefit from the trees they planted they conducted research, working with senior students and teachers, to identify the best types of trees to plant within the school compound. These are trees that have narrow but strong roots, trees that will bend in storms but not fall and that will break the wind during storm, preventing

damage to the school buildings. They then nurtured the young trees on the school farm, allowing them to develop in a nursery area before being transplanted to suitable locations around the school.

The planning and implementation of the projects involved all students across the year groups. It challenged the students to work together, developing collaboration and other core leadership skills. The projects were applauded across the school, showing a commitment to effecting a positive impact on their community. In addition, the students also learned valuable lessons about ecology and sustainable agriculture.

As these students progress through the school and move on to the senior school they will have the opportunity to further develop their leadership skills as they partner with community leaders in Iloko to have an impact on the life of the wider community beyond the school. The challenges they have overcome and relationships they have developed through these projects will be an invaluable foundation. 





The curtain may have come down on the reign of Patrick Ogunbufunmi and Omobolaji Olalere as Head Boy and Head Girl of Olashore International School but their positive impact while they held these positions will always be felt in the school. The duo has expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve. In this chat with Ebiela Guanah and Ojuoluwa Dabiri, they tell us about their experiences and challenges as prefects.

# Our tenure is one

## Patrick Ogunbufunmi



### What was the most exciting part of your tenure?

Well, I think the most exciting part of my tenure had to be working with other prefects in organizing programmes, most especially 'The Bold Type'. The amount of hard work we put into it, against all odds, as well as the fun we had during all the preparations made it one of the most exciting parts of my tenure.

### What were some challenges you faced and how did you deal with them?

I faced a variety of challenges. We were often tasked with organizing important programmes in a very short period of time. We were also entrusted with controlling the refectories and school hall when it got noisy. Fellow prefects kind of had your back when you were in a tight spot and were always ready to lend a hand, so I think all these aided me in getting through these challenges.

### I am sure you had some plans when you were appointed. Did you accomplish these plans?

Of course, I had some plans! I could safely say I managed to accomplish the most important of plans, but of course, there are some plans I wish I could fulfil. The most important of them were ensuring a peaceful and well maintained OIS, and I feel I managed to accomplish that fully.

### If you had to do it all again, what would you change?

Well if I were to start over again, I wouldn't change a single thing. Our tenure is one for the record books and we managed to leave a lasting influence in the school. I am satisfied with what we had all accomplished and we even managed to push over the limits. There would be nothing to change.

### What do you miss about being a prefect?

Honestly, I think I would miss organizing school programmes the most. The feeling of being able to change whatever you could is what made me enjoy these programmes. Also, the fun we all had arguing and compromising on what to do in organizing them made them an

unforgettable experience.

### What lessons have you learnt while serving?

I learnt countless life lessons during my time as a prefect, but I would mention the two most important. I learnt that confidence is essential so others can hear your voice and what you intend to carry out. Leadership will, therefore, be meaningless without confidence. Also, cooperation is an integral lesson I learnt, which will make things impossible to achieve if not used. Being a prefect in OIS has exposed me to these skills, and I am grateful to OIS for imbibing them in me.

### What is your take on the leadership programme of the school?

Well, the OIS leadership programme basically served as the ladder to get me where I am today, so what isn't there to say about it! The OIS leadership programme teaches students the social change model, which rests on the 7Cs of leadership, with each and every 'C' being critical to becoming a leader. Now that I've learnt a great deal from all these life-changing values, it would be rude of me not to highly recommend this programme to any newcomer.

### What is your advice to the new prefects?

My advice to the new prefects would be not to let anything anybody says get to you. At first, the journey will be hard. Although a little constructive criticism should be allowed once in a while, but do not let anyone bring you down with their words. There will always be people who will not like what you do, so instead, use their words to motivate you and become an even better prefect.

### What would you miss the most about Olashore International School?

Well, I would definitely miss my friends the most. The advice and comfort I got from them, coupled with the company they always gave me, are things I will always remember. Through the toughest of times, they were always with me, so there is no way I wouldn't miss them the most.

### How do you like to be remembered?

I definitely want to be remembered as the Head Boy who excelled in all fields and didn't use the post as an excuse. I want to be remembered as the person who was always up there academically, was one of the best athletes, and provided a lasting influence on the school. I think I can say I managed to accomplish those tasks. 📌

# for the record book

Omobolaji Olalere

**What was the most exciting part of your tenure?**

I think the most exciting part of my tenure was towards the end when we put together a new programme called 'The Bold Type'. It was by any standards, what I would call 'a student programme'. It was loads of fun and I think I particularly appreciated it coming to fruition because of the difficulties we encountered trying to make it happen. It was pretty much the most difficult of any of the challenges I had faced throughout my tenure and so that made the success of the project sweeter.

**What were some of the challenges you faced and how did you deal with them?**

One of the challenges was getting the prefect team to be in sync. Don't get me wrong though, we were an amazing team, but of course, sometimes we had differences in opinion and we had to argue it out. Other than that, another challenge would be communicating our ideas to the management in the most effective way we could to ensure that those plans happened. Finally and perhaps the most difficult was remembering that the job had to be done irrespective of who liked or hated you for it.

**I am sure you had some plans when you were appointed. Did you accomplish those plans?**

My major intention or goal, when becoming a prefect was to enforce discipline. I try not to be overly serious about these things because I've been on the other side, but my policy is 'If you know you'll get caught, don't be upset when I punish you'. I mean I was in Year 7 too, when every rule seemed dumb and unnecessary and for a while, everything just seems unfair, but it is a school so things should be done in a certain way, you should look a certain way at a certain time, so really how you choose to deal with that is up to you. I just made sure I did what was in my job description and more because I genuinely care about my school and its future, which will be dictated by the students that make it up.

**If you were asked to do your tenure all over again, what would you change?**

I would have much more fun. I think I took myself too seriously if I do say so myself.

**What would you miss the most about being a prefect?**

I will miss the meetings where it seemed like we weren't accomplishing anything and the feeling of satisfaction when another

successful event was planned.

**What lessons did you learn from your time as a prefect?**

Honestly, I learnt that perseverance is necessary because I mean it is hard work to plan any event. That and because someone doesn't necessarily support your views doesn't mean that they're wrong or out of place. So, in summary, I learnt about assertiveness and perseverance.

**What do you have to say about the Olashore leadership programme?**

The Olashore leadership programme was fun, very informative and taught me a lot about what leadership really is. It reminded me often that the joy of being the Head Girl wasn't in the position, but in the things that I was privileged to do for the school from that vantage point.

**Do you have any advice for the new prefects?**

Yes, I do! Be very confident in who you are and even if you aren't, try your best to look like you are because how you assert and carry yourself says a lot about who you are and will influence how others treat you. Furthermore, never take 'no' for an answer if you really believe in what you're doing. Life is all about challenges and when you meet one, face it with as much of a smile as you can muster.

**What would you miss the most about Olashore International School?**

Easy! The friends and the family I've made here over the years. The teachers, the house-parents, the staff and my friends who encouraged, pushed, fought with me, laughed with me and cried with me throughout my stay here, I couldn't forget them if I tried. They made me feel loved and cared for and in that little way, they made Olashore a kind of home for me. 🏠







# Meet the Prefects

## Meet the 2018/2019 Prefects and House Captains

### Taslim Salaudeen

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Green
- Position: Head Boy
- Personal mantra: Nearly doesn't kill a bird

### Faith Unah

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Red
- Position: Head Girl
- Personal mantra: Hard work doesn't kill but makes you stronger

### Oluwatayo Adefiranye

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Green
- Position: Deputy Head Boy
- Personal mantra: Better than yesterday

### Tega Ogidi-Gbegbaje

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Yellow
- Position: Deputy Head Girl
- Personal mantra: Even if you fall, do not give up and continue striving hard

### Chinedu Nwachukwu

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Blue
- Position: Special Duty Prefect (male)
- Personal mantra: Here to stay, here to win

### Oforitsete Iluwa

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Red
- Position: Special Duty Prefect (female)
- Personal mantra: Life is short. So let's get it!

### Ukeme Michael

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Green
- Position: Academic Prefect (male)
- Personal mantra: Keep calm and be yourself

### Oluwatimileyin Adeyemo

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Red
- Position: Academic Prefect (female)
- Personal mantra: See a problem, solve the problem and never forget teamwork

### Benjamin Omayebu

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Green
- Position: Welfare Prefect (male)
- Personal mantra: Strive for excellence

### Taiwo Awojemila

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Red
- Position: Welfare Prefect (female)
- Personal mantra: Never give up when you fail because you are just learning to become a better person

### Ashley Ejeneha

- Class: Year 11E
- House: Blue
- Position: Social Prefect (male)
- Personal mantra: Look at successful people

### Temilade Ladejobi

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Red
- Position: Social Prefect (female)
- Personal mantra: Leave a legacy

### Ojuoluwa Dabiri

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Blue
- Position: Media Prefect (male)
- Personal mantra: Let's get it!

### Ebiela Guanah

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Yellow
- Position: Media Prefect (female)
- Personal mantra: Don't follow the crowd, let the crowd follow you

### Aduragbemi Jojolola

- Class: 11L
- House: Blue
- Position: Sports Prefect (male)
- Personal mantra: If you put your mind to it, you can do it

### Eunice Green

- Class: Year 11E
- House: Red
- Position: Sports Prefect (female)
- Personal mantra: Every failure is a lesson, if you are not willing to fail, you are not ready to succeed

### Omorinre Omotoso

- Class: Year 11E
- House: Blue
- Position: House Captain
- Personal mantra: I can always do better than others

### Imann Sulu- Gambari

- Class: Year 11E
- House: Red
- Position: House Captain
- Personal mantra: Tomorrow comes with better expectations, new surprises and something to be happy about.

### Alechenu Iyoko

- Class: Year 11L
- House: Green
- Position: House Captain
- Personal mantra: Patience is key

### Ogenevwede Ekwenu


- Class: Year 11E
- House: Yellow
- Position: House Captain
- Personal mantra: I can and I will; watch me





## Students present proposals for the 2018/2019 leadership development projects

Olashore International School is committed to developing leaders for the dynamic global society of the 21st century. The Olashore Leadership Development Programme is a platform to accomplish this. The programme is based on the social change model which is designed to enhance the development of leadership qualities in the students.

Students from all the year groups presented their proposals for projects they intend to carry out during the 2018/2019 session. The essence of the presentation is for the students to make their proposals public in the presence of other leadership students, parents and panel of advisers who will scrutinize their ideas to see if the projects are well thought out. The advisers/judges test the thoroughness of the students' planning through probing questions and then give advice. 







This edition features the top three stories from the OIS Writes Competition.  
The theme was 'community'.

### First Position

#### We're Family

*Written by Chidera Olalere (Year 10)*

For as long as Kent could remember, every day followed the same routine. He would wake up by 5 am sharp using his alarm, eat breakfast and get ready for school. Dropping by his father's room to do his daily but half-hearted prayers, he'd embark on the same thing - books, bullies and more books. He'd run back home, ignoring every invite for a meal or soccer game from neighbours and Kindie.

Finally reaching home, he'd help his mum with lunch and keep his dad company. At 6 pm, he was in bed hoping the next day would be better, but it never was.

Kent remembered a time when things were different; when he and his dad would go play soccer at the local park with other kids, while his mum was off at some bake sale or charity event. One day, everything changed. Dad didn't like soccer anymore and mum became antisocial. A whole year passed by before they told Kent why. With the drastic turn of event starting with his dad's illness, Kent decided that the only

way to adapt was to shut out everyone else and settle into himself and a routine that could do him no wrong. So when his old best friend's father died, he was nowhere to be found; but in the privacy of his room, he wept. Not just for the death of the man that was like a second father to him, but also for the death of his old self. He would never cry after that day or so he told himself.

On this particular Friday, Kent took his time walking back from school. He saw Kindie, his old best friend and increased his pace. Opening the front door, he dropped his bag on the dining table and moved towards his dad's room.

"Mum, I'm home!" he called out, but he didn't get a reply. He opened his father's door and saw his mother at the corner of the room, weeping silently. He didn't need to ask. He walked to his father's side and looked at his still form. He went to his mother, held her hand and comforted her. At 17 years of age, he experienced no emotion. The death wasn't surprising, but the nothingness was.

The funeral preparation quickly took shape, old friends and long-time neighbours providing comfort and food; basically

helping in any way they knew how. On the day of father's funeral, Kent had his best suit on, and with his mother at his side, made his way to the church. All expenses had been taken care of anonymously. Kent took his place in the church, clapped when necessary and greeted guests. He even did a eulogy, which was closely followed by short speeches by members of the community and old friends. Kent had to control the surge of emotion threatening to rise in him.

The congregation followed as his father's coffin was carried out. Kent excused himself and went back to the church where he finally gave into grief and wept for the first time in 2 years. Almost immediately, warm hands engulfed him. He didn't need to look up to know who it was. Through his tears, he spoke, "You paid for this, didn't you?" Kindie chuckled lightly, "My mum did." He looked up at her. "Why? I've ignored you for years. I've ignored everyone for years." "With good reason, everyone here has experienced loss. We're your community, not just flashing faces. The same way everyone rallied to help me and my mum after my dad died, is the same way we would rally to help you. We are your friends and comforters. We're family." 📖



## Second Position

### A Fake Society

*Written by Oluwakemi Oni (Year 10)*

I hail the great Nigeria! I hail her boldness and elegance, her curves down to her ever so edgy edges. Her image, a splash of blue, green and yellow, perfectly presented, accurately carved, hand-made by God himself. A proud beautiful creation, the promise land of black nations.

NIGERIA! I hail you. 'These thoughts rushed through the mind of someone as unpatriotic as me when my feet escaped the hell home we call 'reality'.

I was pulled into a community drawn together. A global village! I was Nigeria, a bold tall nation. Truly! Surprisingly, I am Nigeria. I was the walking creature God deemed fit. My feet bare as I lay on what seemed to be Sudan's front yard.

My headquarters was quite far. I twisted, turned, walked for ages, till I reached the sad home called 'Nigeria'. I was completely stunned as I walked on the perfectly tiled floor and saw the white posh structure. Davinci must've painted this, and then pulled it out. I paced to the very top of my marvellous castle, rubbing my eyes to focus on the flag properly.

My 15 minutes of 'aaww', was quickly put to a stop as a war of 10 years was announced. I went down, looked to my right and saw the strongest country in the world fighting with North Korea. 'How petty,' I thought. As nations attempted to draw them apart, more were dumped in the hot soup. The fight only grew larger.

Not too long passed when South Africa decided to display their madness as well. They only made matters worse. I stood amused at the circus, refusing to involve myself.

My inner African broke out and pushed aside my 'all round sarcasm'. I pushed two nations away.

'We can't behave like enemies,' I started my speech, 'We need each other, to protect ourselves from others. We wouldn't want to put the black race into extinction. If we fight, what is left for our citizens, they look up to us.' The whole community was looking at me, thinking deeply about my words. I brought peace.

Immediately the peace hit, I was thrown to the floor, picked up, and then tossed around. Not a finger, from any nation even pointed my way. The people of my people could not live in peace, even in peace. I was a bunch of scattered mad men masquerading as a unity.

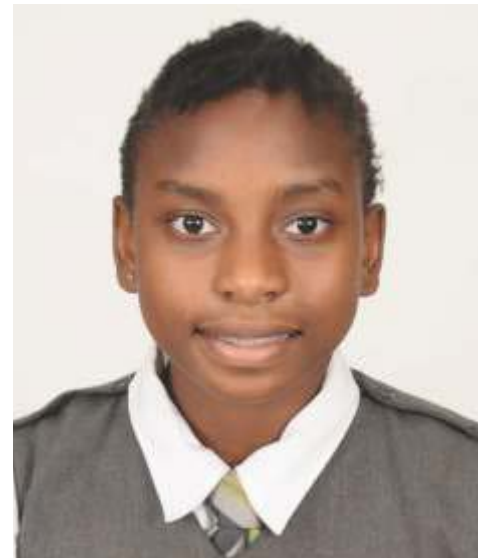
The nations merely laughed. I, preaching 'global peace' could not even begin with my community. 'Nigeria! O so great nuisance. A fake society'. ☹



Chidera Olalere



Oluwakemi Oni



Damisola Talabi

## Third Position

### The Girls That Saved Their Community

*Written by Damisola Talabi (Year 7)*

Once upon a time in a faraway land, there lived a girl named Emily, who was an orphan. Emily was a beautiful girl, who always liked to help her community. She had a friend, whom she met in the orphanage, they were best friends; they did everything together especially community service because when they help to clean the environment and help people, even though they were orphans, it made them happy.

Another reason they did this was that their mothers died saving the community. Therefore, whenever they were helping

the community, it gave them great joy that they were doing what their mothers did.

One day, there was a fire outbreak in the orphanage; Emily and her friend were the only brave girls who helped the orphans out of the building and saved everyone. People were extremely proud of them so they gave them a huge amount of money. They were very happy and proud of themselves that they now had enough money to go to any university of their choice.

They were eventually admitted to the University of Lagos. They were so excited and they still continued saving people and taking care of the community. Sometimes, they visited the orphanage to know if help was needed.

On a fateful day, Emily and her best friend were going to IMAX to watch a movie, but as they were about to watch the movie they started to hear the alarm which meant there was a big emergency.

They both started helping people out even if it meant losing their lives. As they were about to leave, they heard a little girl crying; they went back to save her. As they were about to go out, they noticed that the building was going to collapse so they quickly pushed the girl out but unfortunately, they didn't make it.

They accomplished a lot of things during their life-time because they saved well over 1000 people's lives. ☹



# Olabode Ige breaks school record in JAMB-UTME, SAT

Olabode Ige achieved the school's highest ever score in the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board's Unified Tertiary Matriculation Examination, JAMB-UTME. He also has the best SAT result in the school. Throughout his stay in Olashore, he has consistently maintained the top position in his year group. Olabode, who stands at 5'9 was the male Academic Prefect for the class of 2018 which makes him a role model to other students. In this chat, he tells us how he accomplished this feat.

## How do you feel about your accomplishment?

I feel pleased with myself and grateful to everyone who helped me achieve such great results.

## Did you have any specific study techniques?

I read as frequently as I could. Whether it was during prep, during class or on my bed, whenever I had the opportunity, I would read.

## What will you say was the motivating factor?

I usually think of reading as a pain, but I was actually interested in what I was learning so I would read for hours at a time.

## What is your favourite subject?

My favourite subjects are both further mathematics and physics. I like these subjects in particular because they help me understand the world around me at a more fundamental level. These specific subjects challenge me as a person. Besides, some concepts in these subjects could be integrated into my computer programming.

## How would you describe yourself?

I would say I am an engaging and friendly person with an interesting outlook on life.

## How do you maintain balance?

When I am stressed from reading or feeling down after not living up to my expectation in a test, I usually dissipate the stress by working my body instead of my mind. I engage in tasking activities such as running long distances, lifting



Olabode Ige

weights or playing a sport.

## How do you avoid distraction as a young person?

Distractions as a youth are unavoidable; however, how you react to distraction is a huge factor in determining your result. Creating boundaries between work and play is the most effective way I know to handle distractions.

## What is your future ambition?

I want to study electrical engineering and computer science, but after studying

abroad, I want to come back to start a company here in Nigeria.

## What are your hobbies?

In my free time, I like to create little snippets of code with C++ (a programming language). I also like to create computer models of the things in my environment.

## What is your advice to other students?

It's okay to have a social life or be a sporty person, just prioritize and place your academics above all else, apart from God of course.🙏



# Indigene Scholarship Scheme



The Indigene Scholarship Scheme offers scholarships to students attending the Local Authority Primary School in Iloko town which is the school's host community and to students attending primary schools in Oriade LGA in Osun State. The Scholarship covers full tuition and boarding throughout their stay in the school.

As a school, we are keen to see the scholarship programme extended to accommodate more students. There are so many students with the potential to benefit from an Olashore education. Every day, thousands of children across the nation give up on their dreams for an education as a result of lack of funds. We may not be able to help them all but we can help some. We believe investing in the future of these ones is the right thing to do and you can be a part of this project.

**You can contribute by making payment into the scholarship account:**

**Account name**  
Olashore International School  
**Account number**  
0689748222  
**Bank name**  
Access Bank PLC.

*...and together, let's make a difference.*





## Indigene Scholarship Awardees

Christiana and Adebisi are recipients of the Local Authority Primary School (LAPS) and Oriade LGA Scholarships for 2018/2019 session. They tell us how they feel in this chat with Ebiela Guanah and Ojuoluwa Dabiri

### Christiana Ogunsanya

#### Tell us about yourself

My name is Christiana Ogunsanya, I am a native of Iloko-Ijesa. I am the senior girl of L.A Primary School, Iloko.

#### How do you feel as a recipient of Olashore International School Scholarship?

I am happy and grateful for the scholarship awarded to me because Olashore International School is a beautiful school, the students here are brilliant and the teachers are nice and well trained. Moreover the school is a big one.

#### What will you say were the contributing factors to this feat?

My mum and studying hard were the contributing factors.

#### Who are your role models and why?

My role model is my mother because she cares for me. She cooks, nurtures and does a lot more.

#### What is your future ambition?

My future ambition is to become a doctor.

#### What are your favourite subjects?

My favourite subjects are English language and mathematics.

#### What are some of the activities you engage in aside studying?

I like playing football.

#### Studying at Olashore, what are your plans?

I plan to read my books, face my studies and participate excellently well in other school activities.

I wrote the scholarship examination because I like Olashore International School. I like Olashore International School because of the quality education they give students.

#### What will you say were the contributing factors to this feat?

Reading and studying so well.

#### Who are your role models and why?

My mother because she helps me with my studies.

#### What is your future ambition?

I want to be a doctor.

#### What are your favourite subjects?

My favourite subject is mathematics.

#### What are some of the activities you engage in aside studying?

Singing and dancing.

#### Studying at Olashore, what are your plans?

My plan is to study hard to become great in the future.👍

### Adedamola Adebisi

#### Tell us about yourself

My name is Adedamola Adebisi and I am ten years old. I am a native of Ere Ijesha.

#### How do you feel as a recipient of Olashore International School Scholarship?



# Olashore Holds Scholarship and Open Weekend

It was an exciting weekend as Olashore International School received prospective parents and their wards for the annual Scholarship and Open Weekend. The event took place from the 4th to 6th of May 2018.

The scholarship offered is in two categories which are the academic scholarship and the indigene scholarship. The academic scholarship is open to all Year 7 candidates that have received and accepted the offer of admission from the school while the indigene scholarship is open to Year 6 students in primary schools in Oriade Local Government Area of Osun State.

Parents and guests were taken on a tour of the school and got to see leadership projects carried out by the students. After the tour, parents were allowed to interact with members of staff and were treated to a novelty football match, a science and vocational exhibition, drama night and dinner with the management. Before their departure, interested parents attended the religious service on Sunday morning.

This year twelve students will have the opportunity to benefit from the Olashore International School Scholarship Scheme.❏





# Africa Is Not A Country IV

By Oyindamola Olatunji,  
Gbemisayo Adelaja and  
Oritsejafor Emiko

The 4th edition of 'Africa is Not a Country' event took place on the Water Meadow in May. Year 9L came in first place, followed by Year 11L coming second place and Year 9E taking third place. The presentation of

gifts was done by the Principal & CEO, Mr D.K. Smith and assisted by the P.T.A Chairman Mr Ogunbunmi.

This edition featured a callisthenics display by students from different year groups who came together to spell out 'Africa is not a country'. The presentations consisted of dance, chants,

recitation of the national anthem and a short talk about the represented country.

In preparation for the event, every year group from Year 7-11 picks an African country from a ballot box at the end of the first term in the session. This gives enough time for preparations and research.

Now in its fourth year, the

annual event originally formed part of the school's accreditation for The International Schools Award by the British Council. It gives students the opportunity to showcase the culture of different countries in Africa proving that Africa is not a country but a continent. 









## 20th Valedictory Service

# Pioneer student extols graduating class

By Ojuoluwa Dabiri

Olashore International School held its 20th Valedictory Service to celebrate the graduating class of 2018. This year's special guest of honour was Mr Bankole Alao, the pioneer deputy head boy. In his address, he implored the class of 2018 to go out into the world and become 21st century leaders.

Also speaking on the occasion, Principal and CEO, Mr D.K. Smith praised the graduating class for setting very high standards. He stated that in October/November, many of them took the Cambridge IGCSE examinations and their results were the best in the history of the school with five students achieving A\*/A in five or more subjects. He commended the graduating set for also achieving exceptional results in the JAMB-UTME.

The highpoint of the day was the awards given to best students in various subjects. Ginikachukwu Kalu topped the award list claiming four prizes.

To round off the event, the outgoing head girl, Omobolaji Olalere delivered her valedictory speech which captivated everyone present. She was very pleased with how they had all grown into fine young men and women.

The celebration reached its climax with the luncheon for parents and graduating students. ■











## Year 12 students attend course on university life

Olashore International School organised a one-week course for the Year 12 students to prepare them on study skills and for university life.


Attending a higher institution of learning places students in whole new situations and with these come new academic and

social skills that are needed to succeed in the environment.

Dr J. W. Unger was invited from Lancaster University, U.K. to facilitate the course. Dr Unger is a lecturer and Academic Director of Summer Programmes in the Department of Linguistics and English Language. Other

facilitators included the Principal and CEO, Mr D. K. Smith, Vice Principal and Head of School, Mr J. Toscano and academic managers.

Some skills covered during the course were academic writing, structure, language, style referencing, plagiarism avoidance, making

a presentation, independent learning, CV writing and interview technique, conversational skills, management of online resources, home science and personal financial management. 



# Students should be open to new experiences in university - Dr Unger

**D**r J.W. Unger works at Lancaster University as a lecturer teaching linguistics in the Department of Linguistics and English Language. He was in school to help prepare Year 12 students for a university education so as to enable them to move on and carry on learning in a new place.

**You are here to help prepare Year 12 students for university life and study skills, what has been your experience?**

I feel that the school has been an excellent preparation for them; thinking about where students start when they come to this school and where they end up in Year 12 at the same time I think it's really been useful to have an extra programme for the students. This is because there is a lot still to learn before you go to the university particularly for students who are going to school in another country whether in the U.K where I work or in the U.S, Canada, Australia, the Netherlands, the United Arab Emirates or anywhere in the world, there will be things to learn but I think it is the most important thing for Year 12 students to realize that they are not just learning things, they are learning how to learn when they go on programmes like this.

**You have held a number of sessions with students what has been their response?**

I think it has been very positive, so I feel like although the Year 12 students are graduating, I hope they recognize that they still have a lot to learn. I was really impressed by how much they already knew for example when they talked about plagiarism, understanding how to avoid copying people's work, whether it's other students or sources from the internet or elsewhere, I felt the students already knew quite a lot so they're doing really well but as I said before, there is still a lot to learn.

**How long have you been visiting Olashore International School and can you share some of your experiences at Olashore with us?**

I've been coming for five years now and I think this is my eighth visit and I've had so many experiences. Meeting students from different year groups, learning about what they are interested in. One of my favourite sessions is always my session with the Year 9 students where we talk about what people might do in the future and I find that often, the students here are so keen, so ambitious to succeed. And I have to say that in my five years of coming here, things have really changed as well so I feel like



students now are getting much more confident and are able to discuss the future and the kinds of skills and attributes they might need as well as how the school can help them to get there.

**You have study skills session with Year 9 and Year 12 students and you have also observed the Year 7 mathematics class using iPad and Khan Academy resources, how would you describe the Olashore education?**

Well, I would say that in many ways, the use of technology in the classroom here is way ahead of many schools in the U.K and elsewhere in the world, let alone in Nigeria and that's really impressive. I'd say generally there is a mix here of more traditional/Nigerian methods of education and also other approaches which come from all over the world and so I think there is a good balance here helping students to move from primary schools to secondary schools and then from secondary schools to other opportunities in the future.

**How important is it for students to be prepared for the university and to what extent does their level of preparedness help their academic performance?**

It's extremely important. I think students, especially if they do very well in school, feel like they are very good at this, I can do education so university should be no problem and actually many students find that because it is a different system at the university, they struggle. One of the major differences is the amount of independence you have. So at school, your time is very

scheduled, someone is always telling you what to do- when it's time to go to class, prep, eat and perhaps sleep, but in the university, nobody will tell you that, maybe if you phone your parents they will tell you, nobody is going to force you to do your assignments. You have to have the motivation to do that yourself. So I think one of the things students need to realize when getting into the university is, they need to be much more independent and that can be quite a difficult transition so being prepared for university means learning to be more independent and also learning how to learn.

**What are some of the challenges a foreign student might encounter?**

I think the biggest challenge is probably learning to negotiate new education system so when students are here in the school, often they've been here for six years and by the time they reach Year 12, they already know the teachers, they know how the school works, they know who to ask for help. When you go to a new educational setting, it doesn't matter whether it's in Nigeria or outside Nigeria, suddenly there is a whole new set of rules and a whole new set of people so finding out how to find your way through that system without losing your way is one of the most challenging things.

**What advice would you give to students planning to study abroad?**

The first is to remember you can always ask for help. Often students go to a new place and think I don't know what to do and end up not doing anything or they feel lost or alone but there are always people that can help you. The second thing I would say is, don't forget your roots and who you are which is also very important. I went to the university to study abroad myself. I went from Austria to the U.K., I went from an international school to a university system in the U.K. in Scotland and I think it was very important for me that I still had connections with home, that I had regular contact with my family and that made it possible for me to live in a new place far away from other people I knew but still feel that I wasn't alone and that I had people who supported and who cared for me. If you go abroad to study, it's very different from Nigeria in many ways but that doesn't mean that they are bad or worse and that applies to food, it applies to how people communicate, it applies to all kinds of different things, so learn about the new place you are living and be open to new experiences. Those would be my advice to students that want to study abroad.■



# The next frontier after OIS

Excerpts from the speech delivered by Professor Margaret Okorodudu-Fubara at the 22nd Founder's Day of Olashore International School

It is a great pleasure for me to be here with you this morning. Today brings back very sweet memories from way back in the early turn of the new millennium when my son, Samuel, was a student in this secondary school of excellence. OIS is very dear to me for multiple reasons and I mean this from the very core of heart.

Let me start by congratulating every one of us who share in this great vision set by our highly Reverend Father and Monarch of blessed memory, His Royal Majesty, Oba Oladele Olashore, on this auspicious occasion of the 22nd Founder's Day. The Founder's Day event is worthy of sustenance. It keeps alive the remarkable vision of the founder, a great man of inestimable value to his family, community, country and the world in his lifetime, His Royal Majesty, Oba Oladele Olashore. Let me also congratulate the principal and teachers for the excellent work they are doing in moulding the lives of our young ones in this school, particularly their relentless effort towards the development of the mind and intellect of these young ones as future leaders of Nigeria, Africa and the world.

Now to the students, I am sure you are here in Olashore International School for a purpose and not for fun or the fun of it. Although you can make learning fun by enjoying every minute of studying and creative scientific experiments in school, or even playing games on the field at the appropriate time. But what is that driving purpose? It is important you have a goal and be purpose driven. Bear it in mind that you are not here for yourself alone. In the journey of life, others will cross your path that you are intended to impact, you must make this impact positive not negative.

Your OIS experience is nurturing you to be able to fulfil your purpose on Earth. Before you graduate from OIS, the training you acquire here would have raised to a large degree the bar of the potential you will need in life. This is, therefore, a very important stage in your life. OIS is nurturing and packaging you for what is next. Surely, 'what is next' will be determined by the knowledge and experience you are acquiring from OIS during the period of your schooling here. OIS is globally acclaimed as a secondary school of excellence, and so it is incumbent upon you, not merely to pass through OIS, but ensure OIS passes through you and leaves that indelible impression of excellence on you.

After OIS what next? Take on your purpose and run with it. Are you dreaming big or small? You must dream big. Set a goal. Define your vision and purpose. Start working at it. It is never too early. Be a



Professor Margaret Okorodudu-Fubara

world changer.


Most people gravitate across three major institutional education learning platforms -primary, secondary and tertiary- in the journey of life. Now is the time to decide what you are going to do with the rest of your life. This is a very critical decision-making time. You have probably heard it said that once you graduate from secondary school real life begins and how that life plays out is shaped by what you decide to do after secondary school. Absolutely true! Some of you may have made an informed and well-guided decision before this time. Some may not yet have done so. It is possible that some of you have life plans clearly mapped out as early as your first year at OIS, while some are just drawing up theirs in the penultimate or final year of school.

The young teenager needs to be well guided by parents and the school Guidance and Counselling department to prepare for life after secondary school. Going by my observation from the ivory tower over a period of more than three and a half decades, I have noticed that some secondary school graduates enter the university totally unprepared psychologically, emotionally and even intellectually to embark on the tertiary phase of learning. This is very sad. In most countries across the globe, transiting from secondary to tertiary stage is not just taken as a 'given'. It is seen as a big deal because the next frontier for the secondary school graduates has come to be regarded as a rite of passage for teens to pass into adulthood and a good career. Most people are quick to cite Bill Gates as an example. But remember, Bill Gate years after returned to Harvard to complete his degree

programme. I can assure you that post-secondary or call it tertiary/university education is surely an icing on the cake for a successful work/professional life experience.

I believe in guided 'free decision' by the kids. At this stage, the teen needs to decide what he/she is going to do with the rest of his/her life. This no doubt will influence or define what you do after secondary school, in other words, which route you decide to follow based on the different post-secondary choices at your disposal. What do I mean by 'guided free decision'? It means that as a parent/guardian, you must not impose your own choice of career on a child. Engage the child in a free flow discussion on the child's career choice; understand where he/she is coming, what's driving that choice and understudy his interests/passion. Is it sustainable? Is it merely a passing fancy result of peer influence/imposition? You can calmly and lovingly steer him/her off of that line of thinking if you believe that's not the right way to go. Very important, don't leave the child dry and empty. Fill in the empty void now with motivational materials/information on better suitable career choice. Thanks to the internet, soul-lifting and positive career choice materials can be accessed on the internet and experts publications on career choices.

As you enter into the next frontier after OIS, I advise you consciously strive to make a mark and make a difference. You will all agree with me that His Royal Majesty, Oba Oladele Olashore made a mark that cannot be erased. This remarkable centre of excellence is one of the living testaments to that fact, and OIS will continue to be the flagship of Kabiyesi's major legacies to this country and the world. To make a mark is really to make a difference in someone else's life. The fact is, most often when you do that, it has a ripple effect because when you help or guide someone else, it touches many lives by virtue of having touched one.

Finally, let me conclude with this special 'take away' for you. Psalm 37:3 says, "Trust in the Lord and do good". As you think about what to do crossing into the next frontier after OIS, remember that God created us for a purpose; He did not create us for our self alone, but also to reach out to others. In the journey of life doing good brings great satisfaction and it feels great to put a smile on the faces of others. It is a door opener for God's blessings in your life. Get busy trusting God and doing good. In the words of Keith Harrell, "You have greatness within you. It's time to let the rest of the world know". Go into your next frontier and be divinely blessed. 



# OIS 'O' ROAD RACE



By Elizabeth Adeyemo

**B**lue and Red Houses emerged winners of the OIS 'O' Road Race. The race began with all Year 7 girls. This was followed by the Year 7 boys and continued in this manner throughout the year groups until the Year 11 boys. Every student was expected to run except if there is a certified report from the clinic that a student cannot take part.

After the students' race, there was a staff race which was for only the members of staff that were interested. At the end of the staff race, Mr Salami took the lead closely followed by Mr Harrison, the sports coordinator. 🏆

*Elizabeth Adeyemo is in Year 11*







## Olashore Vs TAICO

Olashore International School Male Soccer Team engaged Thomas Adewumi College in a soccer friendly match. The first leg of the match took place at the Dr Burgess Stadium in the school. 📸





# Red House wins inter-house basketball game



**Y**ellow House played against Red House in a basketball challenge. For the game, they were grouped into categories - junior (year 7 and year 8), intermediate (year 9 and year 10) and senior (year 11).

In the junior category, Annabel Green scored 2 points for Red House, Boluwatife Owoborode scored 2 points for Yellow House and Egwono Ekwenu scored another 2 points for Yellow House. Towards the end of the game, a free shot was taken by Annabel Green and it ended up as a tie between the two houses.

In the intermediate category, Seyi Afolabi scored 5 points, Esther Ola-Ojo scored 3 points and Feyishola Lamidi scored 2 points for Red House while Uduak Obioh and Eyimofe Osinlu scored a total of 6 points for Yellow House.

In the senior category, Timilehin Adeyemo scored 4 points for Red House and Eme Obioh scored 2 points.

At the end of the game, Red House won with a total of 24 points while Yellow House had a total of 22 points. It was an exciting game with Yellow House in the lead at the beginning and Red House coming back strong to win the game.

The game was anchored by Mr Agboola, Mr Harrison and Miss Yetunde Komolafe. 📷





## Oluwatunmike Graduates with First Class Degree from RUN



**O**luwatunmike Olowe graduated with a first class degree in economics from the Redeemer's University in Ede. She is currently carrying out her mandatory National Youth Service Corps scheme in Lagos State. Oasis Magazine team spoke to her in this interview.

**How did it feel to graduate with a first class degree from a private university?**

It felt wonderful to graduate with a first class degree in economics from Redeemer's University, Ede, Osun State. My hard work had finally paid off!

**How easy was this feat?**

It was easy and at the same time not so easy. It was easy because I set out to get a first class right from my Year 12 at Olashore International School, and I worked hard by reading and prioritising right from my first semester. On the other hand, it wasn't so easy because of the stress of juggling a lot of courses each semester.

**So you had set your target before you gained admission into the university?**

Yes, I did. I set out to graduate with a first class right from Year 12 when I heard about some past Olashore students graduating with a first class. I think a number of them graduated with

first class degrees that year and I felt like if they could do it so could I.

**What did you do differently to accomplish this?**

The only thing I did differently was to prioritise. I did what I was meant to do at the right time. I was focused on my goal.

**What would you attribute your success to?**

I attribute my success to God and hard work. A lot of hard work went along with prayers. Also, I had a good support system.

**Why did you choose to study at Redeemer's University and why economics?**

I've always loved economics right from my days in Olashore when I offered it as one of many subjects. The moment I knew I was staying back in Nigeria for my first degree, I had to ask myself what I wanted at a university. I wanted a school that will encourage learning without being stuffy, good academic environment with good hostel facilities. Redeemer's University fits the description of what I wanted when I considered the options I had at the time. I also wanted to avoid the delays usually associated with strikes in the public universities. It was my desire to complete the course within the stipulated time and not have to incur extra years due to incessant strikes.

**How involved were you in other school activities?**

I was involved in a number of leadership activities. I was the president of the Students' Welfare Scheme (STUWES) and the financial secretary of the Redeemer's University Economics Students' Association. I was also the Assistant Course Representative throughout my stay in the university.

**What is next phase for you?**

I am currently carrying out my NYSC in an investment and securities trading company. I'm gaining a lot of experience that I believe will be useful in my career as a Financial Economist. After NYSC, the next phase is to go for a master's degree in Financial Economics abroad, hopefully on a scholarship. ■



Abdul-Hafiz Alako

## Abdul-Hafiz: Lancaster University First Class Graduate

**A**bdul-Hafiz Alako graduated in 2017 from Lancaster University in the United Kingdom with a first class degree in mechatronic engineering. He also received the following awards: Best Student Certificate, Lancaster Award Gold Certificate, and Institution of Mechanical Engineering (IMechE) Best Project Award in Mechatronics Engineering. He is currently a graduate intern at Siemens Limited Nigeria. Oasis Magazine team spoke to him in this interview.

**How did it feel to graduate with a first class degree as well as receive the award for best student in your set from a U.K. university?**

I feel relieved. All the hard work, extra effort and long hours I put into it were crowned with success, thanks to God. The course was very demanding. I had to commit long hours, especially with challenging projects. I had to work on and deliver tangible innovative results to receive a good grade.

**What were some of the challenges you faced while in school?**

The main challenge I faced was with my health, both physical and mental. Mental health is often taken for granted in our culture and not acknowledged but I think it's very important because it affects one's confidence, motivation, work ethics, and relationships with others whom we interact with. What helped me was I had people who cared - my parents, the porters at university and some good friends who supported me one way or another through this journey. To them, I am thankful.

**What would you attribute your success to?**

God first, putting in the extra effort and hours to make sure I was always on track with my studies and meeting up with coursework deadlines. I was bold enough to speak up and approach my professors when I wasn't clear about the course. I also made sure I learnt from my mistakes after each test or coursework feedback in preparation for future examinations.

**Why did you choose to study at Lancaster University?**

Lancaster University has one of the most conducive atmospheres for academic study and research in the U.K. It is located in the countryside. This made me very comfortable to focus on my studies coupled with the fact that as a famous university, I was never too far away from any facility I needed during my stay. The collegiate system was also very important because it meant I had a dedicated college staff that I could always approach for any advice or support I required.

**You received the Lancaster Award Gold Certificate. What specific activities did you do to qualify for this?**

The Lancaster Award has a defined set of activities required to be completed in fulfilment of the award. These include attending career workshops, participating in volunteer activities within the Lancaster community, helping to run a club or society recognised by the student union, and holding a part-time job alongside your university

studies. To obtain the award, I had to fulfil all of these requirements, from which I detailed and highlighted instances where I demonstrated a set of skills such as leadership, teamwork and time management which I developed from participating in these activities.

**You also received Institution of Mechanical Engineering (IMechE) Best Project Award in Mechatronics Engineering. What was the project about and what does the award entail?**

The project focused on designing and developing key components of a novel microfluidic cellular detection system. I received the award for scoring the highest mark among other Mechatronics Engineering students on my individual dissertation project.

**What is the next phase for you?**

I am currently working as an intern to gain more professional experience, while I seek admissions and scholarships to pursue a PhD in my intended field of specialisation. ■



# Alumnus Bags First Class Degree in Accounting and Finance from U.K. Varsity

**Oluwatobi Agbaje graduated from Lancaster University in the United Kingdom with a first class degree in accounting and finance. He also received the Lancaster University Award. He is currently carrying out his National Youth Service Corp scheme at Meristem Nigeria. Oasis Magazine team spoke to him in this interview.**

**How did it feel to graduate with a first class degree from a U.K. university?**

It felt great! It still remains the best day of my life. At that point in my life, that was my biggest goal and it was a very good feeling seeing my hard work pay off.

**How easy was this feat?**

Well, I wouldn't say it was easy but I wouldn't say it was difficult either. I just believe that with the right amount of work put into a degree, it's very achievable for anyone. My plan from the onset was to try as much as possible to get a first class degree and for a major part of the course, I tried to keep to that plan.

**What did you do differently to accomplish this?**

I set a lot of targets for myself, some of them unrealistic. At the beginning of my third year, I had a target of 90% in every course I took. And although I eventually didn't come close to meeting this, the fact that I had this target made me put in my all into my courses.

**What were some of the challenges you encountered in school and how did you deal with these challenges?**

I think my biggest challenge in school was essay writing. By the end of my second year, I realised that I was not doing very well in essays. To this end, in my class selection for my third year, I tried as much as possible to avoid courses which were concentrated on written work, going for courses that had more tests. Also when carrying out my



final year project, I developed a close relationship with my supervisor who guided me through the process.

**What would you attribute your success to?**

My success was as a result of the relationships I had. In my third year, I made friends who shared the same objectives as I did and were studying similar courses. My small group had a healthy competition where we would strive to get the highest mark in every test/exam. I always wanted to be ahead in the group, so this fueled me to study more. Even in situations when I was not the best in the group, we all did well so we were happy either way.

**How involved were you in other activities as a student?**

During my final year, I tried to make my time as productive as possible. I wanted to be in a situation where when I was not doing school work, I was doing something that would still benefit me positively, taking on roles including being a student ambassador at the management school, a student mentor to two first-year students, volunteering at UNICEF on campus, analyst at the investment and finance society etc. I particularly liked doing these things

because they got me out of the library (all work no play makes Jack a dull boy) and they also impacted me positively. They didn't affect my school work because I used them as a break from school work.

**You are currently serving. How is that working out for you?**

Yes, I am. Actually, my service year is coming to an end soon. Nonetheless, my service year has been great so far. I am lucky to work in the investment banking division of a financial services company. Through this experience, I have learnt a lot about the industry which I believe would be very useful in my career. Also, I serve as the president of my Community Development Service (CDS) group and through this role, I believe I have gained a few skills.

**What is the next phase for you after NYSC?**

Although my NYSC year is almost done, I can't say I have a very concrete plan. I plan on doing a post-graduate degree, either a master's degree or an MBA right after or in the near future and I have started working on some applications. In the meantime, I plan to study for a professional examination I am writing soon.■





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