



**Southern  
Ontario  
Collegiate**

**Educating Students from Around the Globe for Over 40 Years**

# SOC Update

School Newsletter

## Update from the Principal March 2022

March is always an amazing month in Ontario. We know that spring is on the way, and in fact it's 16 degrees today and the neighbourhood is full of families enjoying the sunshine. While we know that another snowfall or two is likely, we also know that winter will soon be behind us. For those who are new to Canadian winters, this may be especially welcome news. March is a busy month for students. Mid-term exams are over and mid-term report cards have been issued to all students. These marks are available on Maplewood; if you are having difficulty accessing them, please contact Catherine McFarland at [catherine.mcfarland@mysoc.ca](mailto:catherine.mcfarland@mysoc.ca).

We take the success of every student seriously. We've met with students to discuss successes and to highlight potential problems. We know that two years of remote learning has been a challenge for some, and the SOC team continues to work with students to help them stay healthy and secure. We continue to emphasize these keys to success:

- ✓ Daily attendance at classes.
- ✓ Completing homework and seeking help if students are not sure of materials from lessons.
- ✓ Spending focussed time nightly on review and study.
- ✓ Meeting regularly with teachers and seeking help if needed.

### March Break

The school will be closed for March break from March 14 – 18. We will open again for regular classes on March 21. While we may not be in the office at this time, you can reach us for important issues:

Principal, Alison Currie	<a href="mailto:alison.currie@mysoc.ca">alison.currie@mysoc.ca</a>
Guidance Counsellor, Molly Mignault	<a href="mailto:molly.mignault@mysoc.ca">molly.mignault@mysoc.ca</a>
Admission and Visa Information	<a href="mailto:admin@mysoc.ca">admin@mysoc.ca</a>
Travel & Residence, Nabil Alkilabi	<a href="mailto:nabil.alkilabi@mysoc.ca">nabil.alkilabi@mysoc.ca</a>
Administrative Office, Catherine McFarland	<a href="mailto:catherine.mcfarland@mysoc.ca">catherine.mcfarland@mysoc.ca</a>
Accounts, Katie Cox	<a href="mailto:katie@mysoc.ca">katie@mysoc.ca</a>

## **Opportunity for Passport Renewal Assistance**

Some students from Nigeria have passports that are expiring within the calendar year. We are able to organize a trip to the Nigerian Embassy in Ottawa for those students who wish to renew their passports during the March Break, March 14 – 18. Please contact [catherine.mcfarland@mysoc.ca](mailto:catherine.mcfarland@mysoc.ca) this week if you wish to participate.

## **Covid Update**

We are very glad that the province of Ontario is easing Covid restrictions. As of March 1, 2022 capacity limits have been lifted in all indoor public settings

- proof of vaccination requirements have been lifted although some businesses and organizations may choose to require proof of vaccination upon entry. Restaurants and cinemas and shops are open at full capacity.
- other protective measures, such as mask/face covering requirements and passive screening of patrons remain in place; further updates are expected at the end of March.
- SOC assists all students who aren't fully vaccinated against Covid to complete their vaccinations.

Immigration Canada requirements remain in place; quarantine may be required for international travellers. If you are planning to travel, please check with ArriveCan for the latest information <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/splash-arrivecan.html>

## **SOC will be in Abuja in March**

SOC's head of admissions, Ms. Maryam Yusuf and our guidance counsellor Ms. Molly Mignault, will be in Abuja for a series of meetings and presentations beginning March 22. Once again the meetings will be held at the Transcorp Hilton Hotel, Abuja in the Benue-Plateau room. We will also be streaming these meetings so others can participate and will send you these details as soon as they are available. This is a great chance to meet members of our staff for updated information and face-to-face conversations. For further information, please contact [admin@mysoc.ca](mailto:admin@mysoc.ca) and [molly.mignault@mysoc.ca](mailto:molly.mignault@mysoc.ca).

Members of the SOC team will also be travelling to Vietnam in March.

## **Student Health and Wellbeing**

Please remember that students who take medication should bring their prescriptions with them. This assists the process of renewing their medications while they are here. Students are reminded that medications, including asthma medication, are specific to each individual and should not be shared with others.

As you know, the Ministry of Education also require all students to have full standard immunization for diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough), polio, measles, mumps,

rubella, meningococcal disease. Catherine McFarland has been in touch with many of you regarding updated immunization records. Immunization will be arranged for those who don't have a record of up to date immunization.

### **Important Dates**

Final exams for semester 2 begin **April 8, 2022**. Our guidance counsellor meets with students regularly. If you have concerns about student progress, please contact [molly.mignault@mysoc.ca](mailto:molly.mignault@mysoc.ca).

### **Euclid Math Test**

Registration for the University of Waterloo's Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing's EUCLID TEST closes **March 11**. The Euclid Test itself will be written on **April 5** for students in Canada and **April 6** for others. Written by over 19,000 students worldwide every year, the Euclid Contest gives grade 12 students the opportunity to tackle novel problems with creativity and knowledge they've gained in secondary-school mathematics. The contest's mix of short-answer and full-solution questions challenges students to practice communicating their thinking and helps learners build perseverance, a crucial component of mathematical problem-solving.

Students who are planning to study engineering, computer science and mathematics, especially at the University of Waterloo, should consider taking part in the Euclid, as should those who are applying for scholarships. This is a great opportunity to shine!

**Semester 3 begins on April 19, 2022 and runs to June 30.** Watch this space for the date for graduation in late June.

I am always happy to hear your news. If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me at [alison.currie@mysoc.ca](mailto:alison.currie@mysoc.ca).