

Dear Parents,

Following the government order to close schools for an undetermined amount of time, it is without any pathos that I say to you that our lives will change in unknown ways over the next few weeks and months. Schools around the world are closing and millions of children have to stay at home. ISZ is in the fortunate position that we can continue our learning program online. To my knowledge, we are the ONLY school in Zanzibar that is equipped to do so and among only a handful of schools in all of Tanzania and East Africa. Please rest assured that we will do our best to ensure that learning continues. At the time of this writing, our IGCSE students are taking a 'mock exam' at home.

Kufuatia tangazo la serikali la kufunga skuli zote kwa muda usiojulikana, na bila ya kinyongo nitasema kuwa maisha yetu yatabadilika sana kwa miezi inayofuata na kwa namna ambazo hatukuzitarajia. Dunia kote skuli zinafungwa na milioni ya wanafunzi wanabaki majumbani mwao. Kwa bahati nzuri, ISZ imejipanga kuendeleza masomo kwa njia ya mtandao. Kwa ufahamu wangu, ISZ ni skuli pekee hapa Zanzibar iliyojidhatiti kwa mfumo huu na ni miongoni mwa skuli chache Tanzania na Afrika ya Mashariki kufanya hivyo. Kwa muda huu ninaoandika, wanafunzi wa IGCSE wanafanya mitihani yao ya majaribio 'mock exams' kwa kupitia njia hii ya mtandao wakiwa majumbani mwao.

As we are being asked to increasingly isolate ourselves in order to help reduce the spread of the coronavirus, I urge all of us to find ways to come closer together as a community so that we may support each other during these challenging times.

Kwa kadri tunavyo elekezwa na wataalamu wa afya kuwa tujitahidi kukaa mbali na vikundi vya watu ili kuepusha maambukizi ya virusi vya corona, ninakusisitizeni kusimama pamoja na kusaidiana kama jamii moja kwa wakati huu mgumu.

The administration of ISZ will provide you with daily updates and posts. Our main means of communications is email, but we will increasingly use our [website](http://isz.co.tz/pandemic-plan/) <https://isz.co.tz/pandemic-plan/> and [Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/iszeducation) <https://www.facebook.com/iszeducation> for communications and updates to the wider Zanzibar community. (I would like to thank Nicole Kanz and Akram Karameh for their invaluable advice and support.)

Uongozi wa ISZ utahakikisha kuwa taarifa za kila siku zinakufikieni kupitia barua pepe. Lakini pia tutatumia tovuti ya skuli kutuma taarifa. Tfadhali tembelea <https://isz.co.tz/pandemic-plan/> Ujumbe wa kila siku pia utatumwa kwenye kurasa yetu ya Facebook



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<https://www.facebook.com/iszeducation>. Ninapenda kutoa shukrani zangu kwa Nicole Kanz na Akram Karamah kwa msaada wao.

Please note that the office at ISZ remains open Monday through Friday between 9:00 and 15:00. IF YOU NEED TO PICK UP ANYTHING AT SCHOOL, YOU ARE INVITED TO COME SEE US. We ask that simple hygiene procedures be followed. Upon arrival you will be asked to use hand disinfectant and keep a distance of 2 meters when communicating with staff. Face masks and rubber gloves are available.

Ofisi za ISZ zitabaki wazi kuanzia saa 3 asubuhi hadi saa 9 mchana, Jumatatu hadi Ijumaa. Ukiwa una mahitaji yoyote, karibu sana. Utakapokuja ofisini tutaomba ufuate miongozo ya usafi. Tutakuomba utakasishe mikono yako na ukae umbali wa mita 2 wakati unazungumza na wafanyakazi wa ofisi. Ukihitaji barkoa za kuhifadhi uso na glovu za mikono pia tutakupatia ili kuengeza kinga.

One immediate suggestion we have is that you and your child keep a daily journal or blog. Not only will this give you an opportunity to reflect on the new situation we are finding ourselves in, but more importantly, your journal may become important historic evidence documenting life in Zanzibar during this global pandemic.

Kwa maoni yangu ya haraka haraka, ningelikushaurini nyinyi na watoto wenu kuanza kuandika au kuweka jarida ili kuweka kumbukumbu za matukio ya kila siku na kukusaidieni kutafakari matukio yanayoendelea sasa. Lakini la muhimu zaidi ni kwamba jarida hizi zitaweka kumbukumbu za kihistoria ya maisha yalivyokuwa hapa Zanzibar wakati wa janga hili la maradhi ya mripuko.

Once again, I appeal to the spirit of community and solidarity among ISZ families. Together, we will get through this pandemic and still be able to provide an education for our children.

Kwa mara nyengine tena, ninasisitiza tuwe na msimamo mmoja kama wanafamilia wa ISZ. Hakika tukiwa na mshikamano ndipo tutakapotokomeza kwa haraka janga hili la maradhi na watoto wetu kuweza kuendelea na masomo yao.

Thank you for your patience, support and cooperation.

Ahsanteni kwa uvumilivu wenu, na mashirikiano kwenye hili.

Nurture. Empower. Lead.



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Sincerely,
Mtiifu,

PS: Below please find a [blog](#) from Nafisa Jiddawi on how to stay safe during this global pandemic.

Tafadhali someni blogu hapa chini, iliyoandikwa na Nafisa Jiddawi na kuelezea namna ya kujikinga na janga la maradhi ya mripuko.

<https://www.wajamama.com/our-blog/2020/3/19/wajamamasnbsp-covid-19-survival-guide?fbclid=IwAR3eztkXkZvf8V1EYVgA25Q2yMkiXDN4KxSdIIUBbStA2e35Wsc0VAzSt5k>