

Gecko News



The American International school of Conakry

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Mr. Greg Hughes, Director

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62-66-29-45/46

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62-66-15-35

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62-66-29-46/66-02-19-38

Dear Parents,

Director's Message:



It's great to be back!

I am sure that these sentiments are shared by all members of our school community as we thankfully open our doors once more and continue the business of being a fantastic international school.

Recent events in Conakry have naturally had a profound impact on the city, the country and of course the school. More importantly our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of Guinea whose lives were directly affected by the tragic events of September 28. Over the past year, I have consistently expressed my optimism for a peaceful and prosperous Guinea, and while the recent history is disheartening it is possible that the spotlight that has now been switched to Guinea may effect a positive change in helping the country to finally reach its potential.

During the 2007/2008 school year, our school was faced with a crisis situation where political trouble had diminished enrollment which in turn impacted all aspects of our school life, and yet the school survived and turned around its fortunes to the point where the 2008/2009 school year was one of the best in the schools short history. It was an honor to be part of this turn around and my job as Director was made easier by the fact that a wonderful community spirit existed and it was this energy and enthusiasm that simply had to be channeled in order for us to be successful. Over the coming weeks and months we will once again have to draw on this spirit as we start to once more rebuild following the departure of several of our students.

On a positive note our classes started on Tuesday and with smaller class sizes a need existed to revamp our school timetable which has already gone into operation. Sadly we are not quite ready to reopen our school canteen and so students should bring their lunches to school. Additionally we will not be restarting our activities program just yet and as such school will close at 15.00pm Monday-Thursday and 12.00 noon on Friday.

The past few weeks have been quite busy as security issues have obviously been a major consideration, as well as the many different jobs associated with reopening the school after an extended break. I did have one telephone conversation yesterday that I would like to share with everyone and it was with one of our students, who simply asked, What Halloween activities do we have planned for this year?, and to be honest, I had to apologize and let her know that we were not planning a big affair this year as other issues were taking priority at the moment. After hanging up the phone I reflected on the fact that here was one girl ready to "move on" and continue to enjoy her school and her school life.

While I am sure we have all had an emotional rollercoaster of feelings over the past few weeks, I too am ready to "move on" and get back to making the American International School of Conakry one of the best little international schools in West Africa. There is no denying that we will be facing many challenges over the coming weeks but as before I am sure we will face these challenges with the same enthusiasm, commitment and spirit that we have in the past.

Welcome back to everyone and I look forward to the remainder of the school year.

Yours sincerely,

Greg Hughes

Director

The American International School of Conakry

Dates to Remember

Date	Time	Activity/Location
Nov. 2009		Holiday for Tabaski (TBC)
Nov. 26, 2009		Thanksgiving
Dec. 19-Jan. 10, 2009		Christmas Break



HAPPY GECKO BIRTHDAY



Birthdays This Month: **OCTOBER**

- Lukman Mohammed Abdullahi Grade 1 6th
- Bilal Naous Grade 3 6th

AISC MISSION STATEMENT

The American International School of Conakry is a community of learners engaging in discovery and invention, reflection and problems solving. We teach an International curriculum using diverse teaching methods so our international student body will be lifelong learners with the knowledge, creativity, ethical values, and sense of worth necessary to flourish in a rapidly changing global society.

