



November 3, 2008

Dear Parents:

A Commitment to Improvement

I trust that you and the members of your family enjoyed the recently concluded mid-term break. It is quite astonishing to reflect upon the fact that we are already at the beginning of November and there are now only some six weeks until the beginning of the Christmas vacation and the conclusion of this, the longest term in our school year. The next weeks will see a great deal of busy activity as students and staff prepare for Christmas concerts, dramatic productions, and carol services and a myriad of other departmental activities. Concurrent with this busy **seasonal** activity there is much that is underway in every department of the School as we focus upon areas of administration, policy and curriculum in response to the recommendations for school improvement which formed an integral part of the CESI team's Final Report and our successful accreditation in June of this year.

The conclusion to the visiting team's commentary contains the following observations:

It is clear in speaking with the Head, the Board and some administrators that there is a commitment to School improvement throughout much of the organization. Staff care deeply about their school and there is a great deal of pride about what the Saltus experience stands for. Engaging in the CESI review and accreditation process is evidence that the school wants to measure itself against a rigorous set of standards and embark upon the journey of continuous improvement. This characteristic alone places Saltus amongst the great schools because any school that does not recognize the need to improve is in danger of becoming irrelevant in today's fast-changing educational environment.

The Saltus Internal Evaluation Report was a very comprehensive and honest evaluation of the School. The School is to be commended for a superb job in involving the staff in the review process, the writing of a very comprehensive report and for identifying, through the process, areas requiring growth.

I have prepared a brief informational flyer which will be sent home with your son or daughter this week. It offers a summary of the rationale which underlies our seeking of accreditation; it lists those areas for school development which we regard as particularly significant; it offers a partial listing of member schools within CESI and summarizes the benefits of accreditation for a school such as Saltus.

The Final CESI Report contains Recommendations, Suggestions and Commendations for work already underway in our school. I have arranged for this information to be available to you via our Blackboard curriculum management interface. You may access the lists in the following manner:

Access your PEN account, click on **PEN1 Whole School Communication** and then click on the **CESI** button on the left of the screen. This will take you to both the 'Recommendations' and the 'Suggestions and Commendations' documentation.

The full CESI report is available to those parents who may wish to read it in its entirety. Should you wish to do so or to discuss the content of the full Final Report, I would invite you to contact our Director of Development, Andrew Burnett-Herkes aburnett-herkes@saltus.bm or me head@saltus.bm and we will be happy to assist you in this.

Once again, I trust that your family enjoyed the recent mid-term break and I look forward to encountering you at one of the many forthcoming festive celebrations!

Yours most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N.J.G. Kermode'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'N' and a long, sweeping underline.

N.J.G. Kermode
Headmaster