20 QUESTIONS
JOKE CHUKWUMA & EKUA ABUDU AKINSANYA
ON EDUCATION AT A TIME OF COVID-19

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In line with our Covid 19:20 Questions series, our focus this week is on online schooling. Unlike other sectors that are based on indulgence, Education is a necessity. Today, EXECUTIVE EDITOR, RUTH OSIME, spoke to two school principals, Elua Abudu Akinsanya, Owner/Administrator of Greenwood House School, Lagos and Joke Chukwuma, Owner/Administrator of Children’s International School, Lagos, respectively.

Needless to say, the world as we once knew it has changed forever. Gone are the days when you could just leave your home visit friends and family, go to church or attend events without a care in the world. Oh, how we miss those days of freedom to do as we pleased without paying a price for it. Now we have to learn to be patient rather than become a patient as we eagerly await the vaccine needed for this pandemic to enable us learn to adapt to the new normal without which, the world remains a ticking time bomb!

The need to step out with caution has been re-emphasized because the curve has heightened as people have become more lax by going out more often now due to cabin fever. The recent protests in America due to the George Floyed situation has spiked up the virus according to reports. And as this virus does not determine place or country, the message is clear - it is not safe to go out unless absolutely necessary. Due to this, the online platform has never been so busy as more and more things are being conducted through this channel.

So it comes as no surprise that online schooling for students is the next best alternative. This process however, has overwhelmed some parents as they have had to deal with the challenges meant for teachers who are trained for the job. This has also incited some discomfort for parents who feel that since they have to be involved in the online teaching process as demanded by teachers, their children’s third term fees must reflect that. Teachers, on the other hand, beg to differ and explain the unforeseen expenses and challenges they have incurred to make their online schooling more productive and engaging for their students.

Like with every situation, there are always two sides to a coin. Owner/Administrator of Greenwood House School, Elua Abudu Akinsanya and Joke Chukwuma, Owner/Administrator of Children’s International School, both in Lagos, discuss these issues. We hope this will shed better light on the situation.
Although most of us have traded our jeans and dresses for sweatpants and slippers for the time being, solid wardrobe essentials are forever. Let’s face it, none of us know how long this quarantine will last, but a closet with a reliable foundation of clothes will make it easier for you to maintain your new work-from-home routine, help you get back up to speed once the coronavirus has passed. That’s why the concept of a wardrobe essential is so enduring: A closet built on a streamlined selection of items makes day-to-day dressing infinitely easier. If you don’t know where to begin when it comes to building up the “essentials” section of your closet, the pieces below should serve as an excellent primer:

The Perfect White T-Shirt

The white t-shirt is a wardrobe staple. It’s a canvas for accessorizing and styling that elevates the most basic of pieces. You should have a trusty pair of black leggings to fall back on any time, any day, whether it’s for working out, washing home or pairing with a jacket/while running to the grocery store. A pair of black leggings is an essential wardrobe staple.

The Studio-to-Street Leggings

A pair of black leggings is an essential for lounging, working from home or paring with a jacket—what we’re currently doing. Leggings are obviously more classic than they used to be. The black pair is still key, the print to get you out the door. Leopard is already in the air, but remember styling is key—tailored pants and heels, cozy and chic at the same time!

The Little Black Dress

Nothing is more classic than the LBD. Consider this your one, buy a few for back up as you can never have too many of these!

The Matched Sweatsuit

Matching sport suits were doing the rounds before social distancing, and while happy and comfy are seriously still key, the neoprene we’re adding to cart will be streetwear-ready when things are back to normal. Until then, they’re perfect for lounging, sleeping, or tuning into a Netflix Party.

No Wardrobe is complete without one. This is one item you can definitely justify spending on for quality because you will literally wear it a million times, so you need one that will go the distance. For a fresh approach this year opt for a long sleeve to balance out bare legs.

WARDROBE ESSENTIALS

The Leather Staple

No item is more of a black staple than the leather jacket. The leather jacket makes you feel comfortable enough to wear indoors as you work from your couch or on the floor in front of your couch and there are plenty of classic prints and silhouettes you can buy now and wear later.

The Black Pencil Skirt

A classic white shirt

The white shirt is a wardrobe staple. You can rely on for anything and everywhere. While button-downs are still key, the perfect canvas for any outfit. The best styles are crew-neck and V-necks in soft, relaxed fabrics. If you find a good one, buy one, a few for back up as you can never have too many of these!

The Studio-to-Street Leggings

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1. Cleanse
Cleaning – it’s basically the cornerstone of good skin. If you don’t clean properly, your pores will be congested and blocked, and your skin will be prone to blackheads. This means finding the right cleansing formula for your skin type is essential; the most common formulas are foam, milk, oil, and gel.

2. Tone
Toning will remove any lingering makeup, rebalance your skin’s pH level, while toning and tightening your pores, reducing the penetration of impurities. Pixi Glow Tonic You can tone in the morning with something lightweight and clarifying and at night with something a little more intense. Make sure to choose a toner for your skin type which is essential and will help avoid irritation.

3. Moisturize
Unless your skin is hydrated, it’ll never bring its A-game. You don’t need to splurge, but it is super important that you find a moisturizer that works well for your skin type. Typically, oily and acne-prone skin types should opt for a lightweight gel moisturizer, while dry skin needs a thicker, cream formula.

4. SPF
If you’re not using SPF daily, you need to start now. Like for real, it’s THE MOST important thing you can do for your skin, as 90% of how your skin ages is within your control and is directly linked to sun exposure. Make sure you’re using at least SPF 30 with a five-star UVA rating.

5. Gua Sha
Gua Sha is an ancient skin ritual where a smooth, blunt instrument is pressed against the skin using long strokes to release stagnant energy. The form of facial massage will also boost lymphatic drainage: the process that removes toxins from the skin and reduces swelling. If you use it daily for two weeks, you’ll be on your way to tighter, less inflamed skin, and a more sculpted face in no time.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**PRONOUNCING THE NAME**

**BVlgari**
By Funke Bab-Bajuyi
We love the perfumes from this brand but make sure you get the name right. Even though there is a ‘v’ in the word, it is silent and actually is ‘u’ in classical Latin. So, the right pronunciation is bul-gaar-ee.

**YSL**
You are one step ahead of others if you know what YSL stands for, it is Yves Saint Laurent, but you also need to know the right way to pronounce it. It is pronounced as eve-san-lou-ron.

**MOSCHINO**
Another difficult brand name that most people get wrong is Moschino. You may have heard different versions of it, which makes it even more difficult to know the right one. Well, it is pronounced as mos-key-no.

**GIVENCHY**
Trust us, this looks easy to read but the pronunciation is very different. You may think it is a simple word but it likely you are making a mistake. The right way to pronounce it is zhee-von-sha.

**LOUIS VUITTON**
One of the most popular brands in the world is also one of the most mispronounced one. While it is safe to just stick to calling it LV, if you want to know the right pronunciation, it is lueee-vv-ee-tn.

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GREEN WITH ENVY

Get ready for one of the most colorful trends to infiltrate your wardrobe in a long time. This year, it’s all about vibrant shades and electric colors. We’re talking about the monochromatic look that’s begun to take over the fashion elites. If you’re one of those casually drawn to green hues, we’re going to give you enough reasons to literally go green with envy.

BY USIADE ISIOMA

Green is such a versatile colour and that one-term isn’t even enough to describe the full range of the tones that make up the colour green. We are taking the opportunity this summer to try out something new. Green is all about vibrancy and freshness. There are a range of shades from bright tones and emerald to olive, forest green, and hunter green, chances are there is one that will complement your personality and style preferences. The trick is figuring out which shade is right for you then mixing and matching with the rest of your wardrobe accordingly. Some of our most stylish street style stars has shown us how to style one of the boldest trends of the year so go ahead and make them green with envy!

ACCESSORIZE IN WHITE

When polished and well, the resulting look is usually very stylish. With a bright green dress, the sky’s the limit especially for summer. Add accessories like a white bag and shoes. DIVINE

HOW TO REMOVE STAINS FROM YOUR NAILS

BY USIADE ISIOMA

Most popularly, yellow or stained nails are the consequences of the nail polish. The darker polishes particularly take a toll on the human nails, leaving them yellow or stained with leftover dyes. Of course, the easiest way to prevent this from happening is by using a clear base coat. This will not only help increase the life of your artificial nails, but also seal and protect the nail plates from staining. This quarantine period may have prevented you from visiting a pedicure salon to treat your nails, while you are home there are some natural home ingredients that will heal your nails and make them look their best. Here are a few tips below that will help you say goodbye to yellow or stained nails with a healthy and strong nail again.

LEMON

Featuring with a natural bleaching agent, lemon could effectively clean off the yellow stains from your nails. Moreover, lemon could also work as an antiseptic. You can cut a small bowl halfway with the lemon juice. Then, soak the affected nails in that solution for about 15 minutes. After that, use a toothbrush to brush the yellow discoloration gently off the nails. Eventually, you rinse your hands off with tepid water before applying the moisturizing lotion to allow moisture. Apply this method twice per day prior to get good results.

BAKING SODA

When it comes to natural ways on how to get rid of yellow nails fast, baking soda is a great solution. The exfoliating and bleaching properties of baking soda could help eliminate stains from your nails. You could mix 2 ⅓ tablespoons of baking soda with 1 tablespoon of plain hydrogen peroxide.

APPLE CIDER VINEGAR

With the natural antifungal and antibacterial properties, apple cider vinegar could help decrease nail discoloration. This is an antifungal properties which are helpful in treating any type of nail infection that leads to discoloration, mix 1 cup of lukewarm water with apple cider vinegar and apply the mixture over your stained nails. Wait for four minutes before rinsing it off with tepid water.

WHITENING TOOTHPASTE

Tooth paste which helps make the tooth whiten could be used to remove the yellow stains from the human nails, among many natural tips to remove the yellow color from fingernails. With mild stains, you could use the toothpaste which includes any whitening ingredient containing hydrogen peroxide. Simply apply the small amount of the whitening toothpaste over your fingernails. Wait for 10 minutes. Make use of a nail brush to scrub the nails gently. Wash the toothpaste off using tepid water. This routine should be repeated 2-3 times a week for about one month.

HUNTER GREEN NEVER GOES WRONG

Keep it casual with a hunter green off the shoulder top, but make it seasonally by opting for sunglasses and a statement suit in the form of a blazer or bag. STYLISH.

A DASH OF PURPLE

Make use of a nail brush to scrub the nails over your fingernails. Wait for 10 minutes. Repeat for four days. HUNTON

FLORAL COMBO

Choose a bold hue of green, but keep it interesting with a bright floral pattern. The floral combination gives it that chic vibe especially painting with a floral sandal heel. SAMUELS

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How do you intend take advantage of the opportunities in your industry post COVID-19?

In every adversity, there is an opportunity. Covid-19 has indeed been a blessing for us. I have come up with more ideas and plan to open more stores and even had time to study my past and also re-ignite the opportunities in real estate. Many have said that the real estate industry is one of the worst hit by the Covid-19 Pandemic but we have been fortunate to see the last two trims and we didn’t sink. Just like other times, we shall learn from it, reflect and re-strategize.

What has been the impact of COVID-19 on your business?

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Another effective cure for yellow nails caused by fungal infections is Listerine. Thanks to the active ingredients such as methyl salicylate, eucalyptol, and thymol, Listerine is high in antifungal properties. Soak your affected fingernails in 100% Listerine for 30 minutes. Apply this every day for one week. Then, take a break for two weeks before repeating the routine.

ORANGE PEALS

Also containing high content of vitamins, the orange peel could be a great choice for your solution of removing stains on nails. All what you need to do is to rub your nails with the fresh orange peel 2-3 times per day. After doing so for several weeks, you will see great results. Of course you could simply add two drops of the dried orange peel powder to a small amount of plain water to make a thick paste. After that, you apply the paste over your infected nails for 15 minutes or so. Finally, you rinse your nails off with tepid water. Do this remedy two times per day for 1-2 weeks.

Some people say that there are more than 2,000 empty apartments in Banana Island, Ikoyi and VI, but how does that affect you?

When you negotiate the price of greatness, you pay the full price for mediocrity. For us at Sujimoto, we don’t know what ‘empty apartments’ means because in the first 20/21 recession, we sold out projects in Ikoyi. Our just concluded Giuliano project in Banana Island was sold out 6 months before completion! Not only did we sell out, we have also retained about 3-4 for ourselves in the next phase, where a lady bought at N590 million and she sold for N680 million, making N38 million in 11 months.

At Sujimoto, we have only two things going for us, Quality and Integrity. I have no sponsors, no rich Father or powerful Aunt, all I have is my Way and an addition to Quality.

Will there be any major changes in the way you do business post COVID-19?

Change is the only thing that is constant. We will be doing a mix of commercial real estate than residential. The wish is that we have opportunities and a failure will not be as big as before. We will extend a lot of off-plan sales agreement except for special presidential off-plans.

We will also focus on building private projects for people. We are also interested in lands at Ikoyi or Banana Island in outright sale or TV. Anyone who has a good land in a great location can contact me directly, OWNERS ONLY please.

HOT TIPS ON

The yellow stains from your nails, the way you do business post COVID-19?

Crises are opportunities disguised as problems! We have developed a highly viable and profitable strategy and found solutions for every problem! We have developed a highly guaranteed! Crises are opportunities disguised as problems! We have developed a highly viable and profitable strategy and found solutions for every problem! We have developed a highly guaranteed! We shall only spend every penny spent. We shall only spend every penny spent.

In all my projects, I always try to invite Warren Buffets who are able to discern opportunities, when they see one. Please contact me directly via my email sar@yahoo.com, and I will be available to meet you for serious investors.

It’s simply, we are looking for the ones who are able to take advantage of the opportunities and grab them! We will quickly forget Ronald Worsley when his Apple Shoes in 1978 for $800. Today, that share is worth 90 Billion. And seriously in all my projects, I always try to invite few investors to invest early. Many invest late, when the stock is trading at 100 Billion, which others simply take it for granted!

GET YOUR SINGLE TIME SHARE IN A REAL ESTATE COMPANY THAT WILL PRODUCE N130 MILLION IN 11 MONTHS

Get your single time share in a real estate company that will produce N130 million in 11 months. We are the only company in Nigeria that gives the investors 30% dividend. We will constantly give you dividends in your shares. We will be doing off-plan projects. When you negotiate the price of greatness, you pay the full price for mediocrity. For us at Sujimoto, we don’t know what ‘empty apartments’ means because in the first 20/21 recession, we sold out projects in Ikoyi. Our just concluded Giuliano project in Banana Island was sold out 6 months before completion! Not only did we sell out, we have also retained about 3-4 for ourselves in the next phase, where a lady bought at N590 million and she sold for N680 million, making N38 million in 11 months.

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LUCIDUS
COVID-19 VICTORY CHECKLIST

Reduce the Spread
- Social distancing
- Stay at home
- Self-isolate if you feel symptoms
- Call for help on 080097000010

Kill the virus
- Wash your hands with soap
- Sanitize with alcohol-based cleansers
- Sneeze/cough into tissue and trash it
- Spread authentic info (from WHO/NCDC)
- Do your part: reduce the spread & Kill the Virus

Join the cause
- Donate/volunteer: service, equipment or funds

The only way we will get out of this stronger and better is through coordinated action together. Join us!

09045531044 Cacovidng
supportcacovid@actrustfoundation.org

Staying Alive Together.
In line with our Covid-19 Questions series, our focus this week is on online schooling. Like with every other sector, schools have also had to adapt to the climate of today. But unlike some sectors based on indulgence not necessity, Education is a necessity as students have a curriculum to follow for their academic year. The introduction of online schooling has no doubt, reared some stumbling blocks for both parents and teachers. This process has also brought to light, the significant role teachers play in the lives of their students especially when parents have had to participate in the various assignments given to them. Some parents have found this task challenging while for others, it is a smooth sail - depending on the ages of their children and the level of their tuition.

In the same tone, some parents also feel that since they are now saddled with doing part of the work with their children at home, their third term fees should reflect that because they are not getting the same value they used to get for their money before the pandemic. Teachers, on the other hand, see this differently and explain what it takes to create a platform that will make online schooling more engaging and impactful for their students. To them, this process comes with various hurdles they have had to overcome in their bid to maintain the standard of tuition to achieve their ultimate goal. They talk about the underlying and incurred costs they have accrued to enable teachers make online teaching as close to as possible to physical attendance. There are also so many factors involved with keeping the parents and children in a good place which goes far beyond online teaching.

EXECUTIVE EDITOR, RUTH OSIME speaks to two school principals, Ekua Akinsanya, Owner/Administrator of Greenwood Primary School, Lagos and Joke Chukwuma, Owner/Administrator of Children’s International School, Lagos, respectively. They discuss what the future holds and moving forward with the new normal.
3. What are the varying ages of your students and how have you been able to explain the effects of the pandemic to the infants especially?

We run a crèche, playgroup, nursery and primary school. We have children from 3 years old to 11 years. At school, prior to commencement of the lockdown in Lagos, we had a few assemblies to explain to the children, and we also highlighted the necessary precautions they needed to take. We had them wash their hands regularly and to respect themselves and others. We also reminded them that it is necessary to maintain good hygiene and cleanliness. We also told them about our temperatures management and the importance of wearing hand sanitisers as they got to the Reception. We also made them wash their hands at the gate to wash their hands and were made to observe hand washers as they go to the toilets. We also had them wash their hands before coming into the school. We had a medical and health committee (WHC), hold an assembly where the dangers of Corona viruses were explained to the children. We taught them how to wash hands properly for at least 20 seconds. We also ensured that they had a taste of food and the children embraced the method very quickly and immediately started using it at break times and any time they visited the washrooms. Children always throw away their food when they wash their hands. So they would stop them at exceptions and teach them the proper way of washing hands, and we would go through the process together.

4. What effect has the pandemic had on the mental health of your students and what have you done to support them?

Teachers at this time, have had to embrace a new way of teaching and this has been a huge challenge as they try to see the children face to face in the classroom. But now, teachers are under the scrutiny of parents. They should do enough research before making comments on the day-to-day activities of the children. They are facing a lot of challenges in terms of making sure that their children are comfortable. A new class setting is to be used to get them used to the idea. Smaller children will be on a contact bar and interact with each other. A new system of teaching and marking needs to be introduced, that includes hand washing, are must. One can really make it fun and use technology to teach differently. They can use games to teach them not to touch their faces. The issue of discounts and in fact school fees, has been a very emotive issue. It is generally between all stakeholders and especially between schools and their parents. We set up both a scientific approach and then balanced it with the interests of the children. Our thoughts is that everyone must be willing to give a discount whilst also trying to ensure the continuity of the institution. We ensure that our founder gives the Leadership Team, our Advisory Board and some of our well-known alumni will inform our final decision. We were also guided by what other international schools have done to tackle the issue. In any event, there can be a very useful all-stakeholders’ approach. Each school has to take the decision that they think they are best for their children and for their school. In any event, there can be no one size fits all. Each school has to tackle the issue that they think is best for their children and for their school. Each school has to take the decision that they think is best for their children and for their school. Each school has to take the decision that they think is best for their children and for their school.
WHAT YOU ARE REALLY PAYING FOR

Education university because I believe in building your character in life. Your character is the most important aspect of the level of education you get. The university you go to will determine your future. Many schools are currently strategizing on how school fees will be charged in the new normal. It is a very critical aspect as we have to ensure that school is not only open to our children but also for every single child. The fees charged in the new normal are very imperative that we do not take any chances with the well-being of any of our students. We will do an open assessment which will be based on guidelines from the Ministry of Education and the associations we belong to which will be benchmarked against international best practices.

We believe that the school that we provide, the school where our students will run two daily classes as session classes will necessarily have to be flexible in terms of their opening hours. In addition tick with school hours, rotations, staggered lessons.

The government will benefit from collaborating with our various school associations such as APEN and the NCDC as we can better support with the drafting of the guidelines.

16. How to communicate teachers and children, especially the young ones, to wear face masks whilst in school. How can I do this?

It’s about safety! Yours and that of others. At Children International School we already have a strong culture of getting their feedback. We have also conducted surveys to help us shape our processes. We also had our first ever survey and were able to see the level of attendance by parents as compared to attendance at the school. There are parents who are very positive and in fact, we already had some of the parents who are already taking any form of feedback before the official lockdown. Non-compliance is not an option and will not be tolerated.

17. What is your take on the suggestion of the third term being re-opened? What confidence do you have on both teachers and students?

My take is that time is continuous. Once the time has gone, it has gone. The reality is that we need to be ready to accommodate in the new normal and have continued to learn different intimidations. The fact that students have continued to learn different intimidations in a classroom of a classroom does not mean that learning has not been happening.

There are massive disruptions in education and we just accept that for now and until perhaps we have all vaccinated against COVID-19, virtual learning is the “new normal”.The focus should be to minimise the gaps in the learning of our children.

18. What steps have you taken with your staff to see that your school is prepared for this pandemic and also to ensure parents are kept abreast of things?

This period has been very challenging for all of us without exception. For our students, we have had to ensure there are continuous and multiple channels of communication. We have been very busy making calls to staff to ensure they are in a good place and where there are concerns, to try and address. We have also had various virtual wellbeing sessions facilitated by professional and this has been very well received by our staff that attended. For our parents, it is all about communication. We have had bi-weekly meetings with them through which we were able to get their feedback. We have also conducted surveys to help us shape our processes. We also had our first ever survey and were able to see the level of attendance by parents as compared to attendance at the school. There are parents who are very positive and in fact, we already had some of the parents who are already taking any form of feedback before the official lockdown. Non-compliance is not an option and will not be tolerated.

19. Some kids have been known to suffer from depression because of the long hours they make them stay up late with lack of physical contact with their other classmates?

Our pastoral team meets with member of the third term weekly. The first thing that will happen is the children have the chance to discuss the challenges they are facing. This has been very helpful. The zoom sessions also give our pastoral team a chance to meet with students individually also that online. In addition, we send videos to our students showing past activities we have had in school. The third term group also have weekly assemblies which they always look forward to. These help in group composition, singing, piano, clarinet, dance and movement have gradually been added to offerings for children.

20. Has online schooling built stronger relationships between parents and teachers, if so, how?

Children’s International School has always enjoyed a very strong relationship between our parents and our teachers. However, this is perhaps the first time parents have been so involved in the everyday life of their child. Our parents now have an open door policy. Our main task is to communicate with them. Our partnership with our parents is working very well and we are supportive and committed to virtual schooling.

21. What is the admission process?

The admission process is similar to what we had previously. The only difference is the parents will be able to charge extra ordinary fees in other years over and above and can afford to keep students that have rare learning differences. Infrastructure remains the same but the module for fee is different. For example, let’s say your child in the first term of a secondary school, if your child is out of secondary school, you will have to write an exam to get in. In the same term, he is also quick to acknowledge that what parents pay for is different from what parents spend. It is a challenge for the institution to provide the necessary services that are expected.

Secondly, they pay for their health through the institution who provides the necessary services. As long as that remains, it means the demand is high. He also says that Ivy League schools are not the only ones that get international best practice. They have the same challenges that international best practice. For example, let’s say your child is in the first term of a secondary school, if your child is out of secondary school, you will have to write an exam to get in. In the same term, he is also quick to acknowledge that what parents pay for is different from what parents spend. It is a challenge for the institution to provide the necessary services that are expected.

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Getting your 9 + 2, 32 + 2, 45 + 3, 57 + 4, 69 + 5. You add the numbers together and get 82. Now, you take the number 8 and divide it by 2 to get 4. This is the number you need to remember. The next number in the pattern is 57. To get the number 57, you need to subtract 1 from the previous number 58. Now, you repeat the process. You add the numbers together and get 62. Then, you take the number 6 and divide it by 2 to get 3. You add the number 3 to the previous number 58 to get 61. Now, you have the next number in the pattern, which is 58.

Ivy League schools are actually overpriced but what parents pay is not the price they are paying but what parents actually pay is different from what parents spend. It is a challenge for the institution to provide the necessary services that are expected. They pay for the experience the institution provides and not most important, they pay for the benefit on the certificate given at the end of the day.

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**Look for Less**

By Funke Babs-Katje

Where the little black dress offers timeless styles in classic silhouettes, the little white dress feels lighter, breezier and is more experimental. It’s a perfect canvas for accessories. If you are at crossroads on how to style your dress, take a cue from Koko Osibowura’s in her dress that accentuates her figure in all the right parts.

You have two choices to get the look; you can either pump up the volume with luxury accessories or get similar accessories at a much cheaper rate to achieve the look for less.

**A Mother Speaks**

By Tundun Abiola

Here we are in the middle of a pandemic. The esoteric has become the quotidien. Homeschooling is no longer the preserve of the uber-wealthy bohemians and mavens, we’re all at it. Jokes, memes and comical videos aside, it’s a privilege to have a home in which to stay out of the dreaded COVID-19’s way, to be able to provide the hardware and the infrastructure homeschooling requires and the energy and time to teach healthy children. Now more than ever, I am painfully aware of the inequality in our society. Instead of overlooking and mourning, give thanks. Millions would love to have our challenges. The most important part of our experience in this pandemic is struggling with a subject or your children figuring you made up those tales about coming first in class every year then count yourself fortunate. They’ll still love us, madness, academic prowess or stature.

That unconditional love though mutual, of course does have its momentary limitations. This situation takes family bonding to the nth degree. We swear we know our little darlings like the backs of our hands down to how they learn because we help with homework but homeschooling is an entirely different beast. We know if each child has an eye for detail or never reads though, if they prioritize presentation or re-write, or if they rely on teacher’s to iron out those kinks.

Now that one of the most essential services to parents and children isn’t available as we’ve come to expect it up to parents to roll up their sleeves, check their tempers and have fun. I certainly am. Besides, it’s a timely reminder that the back steps with parents. Children are Mr/Mrs So and So’s pupils for a year but they’re Me/Mrs So and So’s children for life.

This is not to suggest that it’s all been a walk in the park or that the efforts of parents compare to teachers. Professionals in those fields scoff at citizen journalists, armchair psychologists or those who download templates from the internet and fancy themselves as lawyers and rightly so. It’s the same here. The training a teacher has, their commitment, the patience and the skill that takes years to hone. That it’s a warm, fuzzy place where our children go for love, nurture and instruction does not obviate that basic fact. That business may have losses its servicing and certainly has staff its paying. In these precarious times, we also want supportive employers. Teachers are no different. They need to be paid if they are working from home as a lot of us. From the effort that we expend supervising our children and wards, we can imagine or ought to be able to imagine what it takes to plan lessons, field questions and mark assignments even now. Aside from teachers are non-teaching staff who play an invaluable role in keeping our children safe and happy while they’re at school. They have bills and obligations too. It would be unreasonable for any school to expect full fees when its business most unusual. Discounts were offered to parents of anywhere from 10% to 40%.

The discount on the lower end of the scale went down like a lead balloon in some quarters. As the character of an individual is revealed in a time of crisis, so are the values of an organization. Parents expected support and understanding while at the same time, no parent would have wanted the teachers who make such a difference in our children’s lives to face the mass retrenchment that we’ve all heard about and in some cases, experienced. It is my sincere hope that schools will show understanding to those parents who made such a difference in our children’s lives to face the mass retrenchment that we’ve all heard about and in some cases, experienced. It is my sincere hope that schools will show understanding. Our children are Mr/Mrs So and So’s and So’s pupils for a year but they’re Me/Mrs So and So’s children for life.

Some parents felt afforded to receive an invoice for third term fees but a school is a business. That it’s a warm, fuzzy place where our children go for love, nurture and instruction does not obviate that basic fact. That business may have losses its servicing and certainly has staff its paying. In these precarious times, we also want supportive employers. Teachers are no different. They need to be paid if they are working from home as a lot of us. From the effort that we expend supervising our children and wards, we can imagine or ought to be able to imagine what it takes to plan lessons, field questions and mark assignments even now. Aside from teachers are non-teaching staff who play an invaluable role in keeping our children safe and happy while they’re at school. They have bills and obligations too. It would be unreasonable for any school to expect full fees when its business most unusual. Discounts were offered to parents of anywhere from 10% to 40%.

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"no-makeup"

The irony of no-makeup makeup is that looking like you have nothing on, in fact, requires a lot of skill. Perfect for daytime or going casual, the right “nude” makeup look will feel like you’ve got the Instagram “pretty” filter on your face at all times. Basically, it means you look like you took no time getting ready. Easy, right? Not quite. Read on for expert tips for nailing the wake-up-like-this face beat once and for all.

COMPLEXION IS KEY
Before putting any makeup on, you should prioritize a solid skincare routine for a smooth canvas. Then, your approach with application should be ‘less is more’. Only put makeup where you need it and blend it out. The whole point of the look is to make it look like your actual skin. Product placement is key - focus on specific areas over opting for a full face, full-coverage application.

DON’T NECESSARILY USE LESS PRODUCTS
All you need for a no-makeup makeup look totals seven products. It’s less about the quantity and more about going for lightweight formulas. This includes concealer, a little highlighter, brow product, mascara, translucent powder for the T-Zone and blotting papers for touching up.

OPT FOR A BARELY THERE LIP SHADE
The ever elusive “nude” lip is achievable by following your natural lip color. Be careful of muted lipstick as a lot will make you look chalky. ‘Nude’ doesn’t mean brown for everyone. There’s always a little berry or peach in everyone’s natural lip color - that’s the blood flowing under which makes you look alive.

Pro tip: Use the blush color you used on your cheeks just in the center of the lip and blend it out.

BY KONYE CHELSEA NWABOGOR

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