

ESPRESSO

JUNE/JULY 2012



SENIOR SCHOOL

We have finally come to the end of the third term and in effect the 2011-2012 academic year. In retrospect, it's been a busy year with many ups and downs, challenges and victories but despite all that, it's been a beautiful year. The student body has grown by leaps and bounds and if that is not a sign of advancement then I don't know what is! All said and done, we must be doing something right! Thanks to everyone for your continuing support; to parents –for entrusting your precious children to us; to students – for giving the whole N.I.S staff an opportunity to exercise the patience of saints! To Mrs. Lee – for keeping the faith through the sunshine and the rain and to The Almighty – for just being there, listening to our silent prayers and for His providence and protection.

Back to term 3. It being an exam term meant that things had to be a little quiet so as to provide a conducive atmosphere for our 'O' and 'A' Level candidates. One of the first events witnessed this term was the **Prayer Day** for the candidates. This was one of those solemn moments when it dawned on most candidates that the exams were finally around the corner. It was the 1st time we were holding a formal prayer session for the candidates and this was met with a lot of appreciation by the students.



We also had a series of **Year 9 Subject Options** meetings on 3rd, 9th and 29th May and the **Year 7-10 Parent Teacher Consultation** on 14th June. The turn out was fairly good but can be better. Parents ... pull up your socks ... your children are your investment.

On Leadership, we are happy to announce that we have a new Head Boy and Head Girl - Samuel Mukuru and Antoninah Obiero - filling in the big shoes left by Nicole Maloba and Imran Maina. We appreciate the good job that the former heads prefects did and wish the incoming ones the very best.



After a lot of preparation, the **Science Fair** was held on 15th June and involved students from Year 7-10. The enthusiastic students were divided into two groups, the juniors (7/8) and seniors (9/10) and they presented interesting projects in biology, chemistry, physics and foods & nutrition. At the end of the day the following students came out winners:

Juniors

- Position 1 – Kathryn Deng and Neeti Vyas – hand sanitizer and energy saving battery
- Position 2 – Andrew Etale and Mohamed Hassan - refraction of light
- Position 3 – Juhi Dawoodia and Priya Shyam Vyas – leaf and petal chromatography



Seniors

- Position 1 - Ritual Khanna and Barbara Mukidza- biodiesel
- Position 2 – Farhiya Mohamed (herbal roll on/ cleanser) and Rose Matsuda and Marjorie Mungai – alternatives to chicken eggs in baking
- Position 3 - Diki Tsering, Zoe Mpathia, Elizabeth Kerich – effects of music on memory



Congratulations to all those who participated and to the teachers who encouraged these young scientists.

On 22 June we also held another first ... the **Year 13 Graduation Ceremony**. It was quite a grand occasion with Dr. Nelson presiding over it as the Guest of Honor. In a very moving speech Dr. Nelson narrated stories demonstrating hope, strength and encouragement. For the first time all the students, and I mean ALL, listened in awed silence many blinking back their tears. Her words were timely and she definitely gave everyone something to think about.



There were also speeches from Mrs. Lee, Nicole Maloba and Michael Gicheru, in which they expressed their appreciation to the parents, staff, friends and colleagues. The bottom line was . . . there truly is no place like high school. Nicole, our song bird, also did a fantastic rendition of Whitney Houston's 'I will always love you' and got a standing ovation from the Year 13's as the song came to an end. We will miss that great voice. Our Year 13 graduates now have all the power to read and write and do all that appertains to leaving high school! We wish them the best in all their endeavors.



The graduation day was followed up by the **Prom Night** on 23rd of June at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Upper Hill. It was a glamorous red carpet affair and the students from Year 11-13 appeared dressed to the nines. Some of them were actually looked so elegant, chic and sharp in their evening attire that they were quite unrecognizable! What was enjoyed the most was the music and the dancing and whoever thought that teachers can't dance or are 'so yesterday' were in for a shock. The staff actually had more fun on the dance floor than the kids did, thanks to Ashwin who wouldn't allow anyone to sit down for even one moment.



The prizes for the Prom King and Queen went out to drumroll . . . Zamil and Arnald, the Best Dressed couple were . . . Ramla and Noman, the Lucky Winners for the Night were Brandy and June (Dinner for two at the Crowne Hotel) and Ms. Ombeta won a breakfast for two at the same hotel.

The Swahili Day

The day was full of pomp and colour as, teachers and students wore Swahili outfits like vitenge and kanzus. Even Mr. Pollock adorned himself with a kikoi shoulder wrap! The event started off with the school prayer in Swahili said by Thomas Ndichu of Yr. 10B. Thereafter Ms. Damaris took the audience through the program of the day after which, Mr. Wangosho, the Master of Ceremony gave a short speech about the importance of Swahili language. The Yr. 10 students, Treza Githui, Barbara Mukidza, Fatuma Barrow and Kathleen Muraya addressed the audience on the history and culture of Swahili.

Light moments followed when students and teachers attempted various Swahili tongue twisters. The morning session wound up with a hilarious mchongwano and sheng moment from the students and the teachers. The session ended with the school fraternity settling down to enjoy a lunch of Swahili delicacies. After lunch, the long awaited Guest of Honour - Swahili news anchor, Swaleh Mdoe, graced the afternoon session with his presentation which focused mostly on the importance of Swahili as a language. His visit ended with him interacting with students and teachers and a photo session. It was a successful day.

The **Art Exhibition** was also another first. This was held at the Nakumatt Junction on the 29th June to the 1st July and it was truly a resounding success. 29th was the opening night and the occasion was graced by one of the parents from the Junior School as Guest of Honor, Mr. Ramesh Kavil (Regional Director, Barclays Africa) who is himself a fantastic artist. The exhibits were awesome and if I could describe the school's first art exhibition in a word, it would be . . . "BOOM!"



38. Hope
Eva Channogorom
Pencil

A typical drab art gallery of canvas piece after canvas piece was most definitely not the look our 21st century, ***“where tomorrow begins”***, we had on mind at all. The art students valued the looks of appreciation in the eyes of random passers by who would have never expected to walk in on a gallery on a dry Friday night or isolated Saturday morning or bustling Sunday afternoon. Their reaction was stellar! It was as if they were trapped in a cocoon overflowing with eons of creativity. It was obvious that many did not know what the different art forms and movements were. They included animation, mixed media, a really thought provoking sculpture, landscapes, portraits and self-portraits. Trust me, that's not even the half of it.



To our pleasant surprise, on the opening night of the exhibition, the art students found out that the pieces on display would be bid and that a certain percentage would go to our School's CSR, CATSI Kenya, whose purpose is to support cancer patients and create awareness on the same.



But that was not all. On 30th at 12 noon our flash mob dance group (thanks to the insistent practice sessions that were conducted by Ashwin Lee) sprang a surprise much to the astonishment of shoppers and all those who happened to be hanging out at the Junction. We would like to thank all those who worked towards making the event a success and friends of parents and friends of N.I.S for their presence there and unending support. In the end it was good to see that parents, students and teachers appreciative of the work done. To the art students in the words of a fellow creator George Bernard Shaw, ***“Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine, and at last, you create what you will”***. Keep being creative, keep imagining, and keep dreaming. And to you all . . . you are your own creator and you are what you create. Thank you Miss Shah for organizing the exhibition to the art students, hi-5!



JUNIOR SCHOOL

The second half of term 3 was yet another busy and exciting time at the Junior School. Our first batch of students from year 2 and 6 completed the SATS exams for which they were quite prepared. The papers were taken for external marking and our students did us proud by achieving excellent results. Congratulations and well done!

Field Trips

The Year 6 students went to Ol Tukai Lodge for an overnight trip which not only helped them to unwind after the SATS but also gave them the opportunity to observe and experience the wildlife in their natural habitat.

Years 4 and 5 students visited the Marula Studios in Karen where they learnt about reducing and recycling waste materials. Years 2 and 3 visited the Animal Farm in Karen where they spent the whole day with farm animals and had a picnic lunch on the vast grounds.

Our little ones from the Kindergarten had a great day out at the Mamba Village.

Assemblies

As always, our Friday assemblies are the highlight of the week and something to look forward to not only by students but also parents.

Each year group came up with a unique theme and made excellent presentations.

Certificates were given out in different subject areas to students who made an effort to improve.



Junior School Musical

This was truly the highlight of the term. All the children at the Junior school, from the Nursery to Year 6, came together to put up an excellent show in a modified version of **Aladdin and the Magic Lamp**. The characters looked straight out of a story book with long flowing robes and shimmering outfits. The script was hilarious and the songs and dances were beautifully choreographed. The performances of Victor as Genie and Travis as the evil Jaffar truly enthralled the audience. It was a full house with about 400 parents and visitors who were really impressed by the talents of our young performers. Well done to the students and teachers of the Junior School for putting up a great show!



Graduation and Prize Giving Day

We ended the term by giving a grand send off to our Year 6 students who were graduating from the Junior School and moving on to Year 7 at the Senior School.

They looked smart and confident in their graduation gowns as they gave their goodbye speeches. Our chief guest, Dr. Nelson motivated them to work harder and to excel in the future. We wish them the very best as they move on.





During the Prize giving, all the students, from Nursery to Year 6, who excelled or made an effort to improve in different subject areas were awarded with prizes. The grand finale was a farewell song by the outgoing Year 6 students. This was truly the best way to end a very successful first year of the Junior School.



We reopen the school on the 4th of September....until then, stay blessed wherever you may be...!

CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 6 AND YEAR 13 CLASS OF 2012



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