



SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 383

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SCHOOL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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If we are to truly be a "learning community" then I think it is important that we share the same values and aims. In this spirit, here is my talk to staff from Tuesday briefing this week....

....think for a moment of all the people you have ever interacted with throughout your life to date.....friends....family mem- bers....acquaintances.....Of course these will be first to mind, but now go a little further and think of all the strangers you interacted with just briefly....someone you held a door for...a waiter who served you....a taxi driver who drove you....a neighbour on a train or aeroplane....

It is that time of year when teachers could be forgiven for wondering why they do what they do: the alarm is going off while it is still dark; books for marking are now piling up; after-school meetings are in full swing; and people like me are already pressing for better planning, more engaging lessons and more accurate and helpful assessment.

I am in education to change the world. Well, actually, I am in education because I failed to make the grade as a professional footballer but, perhaps because I am a bit of slow learner, it took me some time o realize that my job gives me the chance to make the world a better place. How- ever, having finally realized it, I am now wholeheartedly and unasham- edly committed to that aim, however lofty and romantic it may be.

You know, we can make a child better at spelling or trigonometry or im- prove her ability to understand Boyle's lay, deploy fronted adverbials or use the pluperfect tense...but in doing so, it is unlikely that we will be changing the world. The world will probably not be a better place be- cause a child is a better mathematician, physicist or geographer. But if we can make a child a better *person* then we *will* change the world. Think now of all of the interactions that our children will have with peo- ple throughout their lives. It is almost impossible to grasp the amount of good that can come of them getting these relationships right.

Throughout this week, I want you to try to grasp and cherish your one-to -one moments with children. If you can use one of them to help a child to be:

- More generous
- More thoughtful
- More forgiving
- More courageous
- More tolerant

....then you will be changing the world!

Have a lovely weekend everyone...

Steve Lang

School Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

6th Sept	U16B @KISU
	U16G @ HIS
10th Sept	U20B @ ISU
	U20G @ KISU
14th Sept	PTA Welcome back party
17th Sept	Y11 post 16 Education meeting
24-29th Sept	Health Week
24th Sept	Y7 parents CAT meeting
26th Sept	IH Athletics
29th Sep	First Tracking reports
8th-19th Oct.	Half term
9th October	Independence Day
30th Oct	ISSAK semi finals
31st Oct	ISSAK semi finals
3rd Nov	ISSAK finals @ ISU
8th Nov	IH Football
12th-16th Nov.	Outdoor Ed week
27th Nov	IH Swimming
14th Dec	End of Term

We are currently finalising documents for our 5 year International Baccalaureate review. One of the areas we have to look at is inclusion i.e. what steps do we take to make sure that the education we provide is tailored for with wide variety of students that make up the KISU family. There are a number of obvious things;

- A broad and balanced curriculum which includes Maths, English, French, Humanities, ICT, Lego, a range of Arts subjects, food technology and PE.
- A student's prior education is taken into account when they join us not just their age.
- Baseline assessments are done to make sure they are in the most appropriate sets.
- Tutor groups and Red and Blue groups are selected to give a balance of gender and a mix of nationality and culture.
- Francophone students have lessons based on the French Language curriculum and sit for French 1st Language exams at IGCSE and IB.
- Students all sit CAT assessments so that we can identify strengths, areas that might be challenging and learning styles.
- All teachers produce differentiated planning to cater for the more able, underachievers, students for whom English is an additional language, students who have special educational needs and students who may have some behavioural issues.
- We offer over 30 clubs covering wide range of activities with something to suit every student.

Other areas where we make sure that all students are catered for that might not be so obvious include;

- All but 2 secondary classrooms being accessible by wheelchairs.
- Wherever possible new students are given buddies who speak their mother tongue.
- Students with special learning needs are given one-to-one or small group withdrawal lessons.
- Students who have little English language are given one-to-one or small group withdrawal lessons.
- Students who join us in Year 11 are sometimes given a bespoke timetable based on their plans for IB.
- Dutch lessons take place after school for our Dutch students.
- Students in Year 11 may attend some Year 10 lessons so that they have a better foundation for the subjects that they will study at IB.
- Some subjects have text books specifically designed for EAL students.
- Examination entry for mother tongue languages are organised so that students can fulfil the requirements of their home countries.
- Early entry to examinations is done in exceptional circumstances.

I know that when I went to school education was "one size fits all". At KISU we try really hard to make the educational experience that each student receives a truly personal one.

Regards

Terry Garbett

Head of Secondary

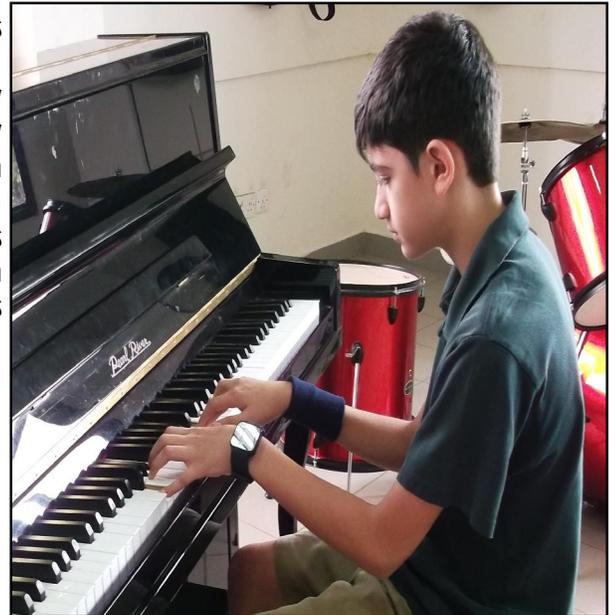
Please take note of the following information from the music department!

Individual Private Music Lessons

KISU runs a Private Music Lessons program for all age-groups where students seeking to improve their playing or singing ability have the option of taking individual private lessons for an additional fee. Approximately 10 professional musicians from around Kampala offer weekly instruction in voice, keyboard, wind, string, and percussion instruments. Students may study voice, piano, classical guitar, electric guitar, bass guitar, modern drums, African drums, cornet, recorder, violin, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet and African xylophone.



Registration is in progress now and forms can be obtained from the Secondary music room or Primary office. The cost per lesson is UGSHS 40,000 and a minimum of 10 lessons is required at registration each term. All payments must be in advance.



Music Recitals

KISU offers a variety of performing opportunities to students as a way of celebrating their musical achievements on their chosen instruments. Two recitals are organized every year in December and in May. More information on that will come your way in due course.

Associated Board of the Royal School of Music Examinations 2016

As you may know, KISU is a center of the International Music Examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM). Students that take lessons on individual instruments are presented with the opportunity to take music examinations conducted by an international assessor from the United Kingdom. Should you wish to have your child examined under this scheme, please let me know so that we start working towards that.

**Dr Benon Kigozi,
Head of Music**

Asus ROG Zephyrus S



Lately there has been a move by many people to buy gaming laptops but not for gaming but for doing heavy duty work. This is largely because gaming laptops usually have superior specs in comparison to other laptops and so when I come across these, I am always fascinated by the specs they pack and so today we look at the Asus ROG Zephyrus S.

The Asus ROG Zephyrus S GX531 sets out to be the smallest, thinnest and quietest Nvidia Max-Q machine ever created. Thanks to slimmer screen bezels, thinner body and a much improved build, this gaming laptop has succeeded the original Asus ROG Zephyrus GX501 in almost every way while fixing many things we disliked about the original.

The Zephyrus S is more compact than the previous Zephyrus versions, and you can easily tell it has shrunk from the small bezels around the sides and top of the screen. It's also a tad lighter, at around 4.6 lbs, compared to the 4.95 lbs of the original Zephyrus, as well as thinner, at .62", compared to the .70" of the GX501.

Not much else has changed on the outside, as the Zephyrus S looks and feels like a baby version of the Zephyrus. They share similar aesthetics lines, features and layout designs. For instance, this laptop still implements the AAS mechanism that lifts the main-body in order to improve the air-flow towards the inner components, there's still a chin underneath the screen and enough room for a camera at the top (despite the thinner bezels), the build quality is still top notch and the keyboard is still placed at the bottom of the interior, where most other laptops get a palm-rest, with the trackpad at its right.

The reduced footprint of the Zephyrus S attracts a few other changes: the speakers are no longer flanking the keyboard, instead they've been placed in the small hump just under the screen, which also integrates the status LEDs now, and the IO is slightly snipped. The specs only mention two USB-C ports and nothing about Thunderbolt 3, which is a downgrade from the original Zephyrus.

Another important update regards the screen: still 15.6-inch in size, but with a 144 Hz IPS AHVA panel. An AHVA panel is normally a little faster than a standard IPS screen, which is ideal for a gaming laptop. It also gets deeper blacks and better contrast, but only average color accuracy. Asus mentions 100% sRGB coverage for this panel, which should be around 70% aRGB, enough for daily use and games, but not exactly what you'll want to for color-graded work.

Unlike the original Zephyrus, the S no longer gets GSync, which on one hand impacts the gaming experience, but on the other is replaced by Optimus, which allows for significantly longer battery life.

And then we get to the hardware. The Zephyrus S is built on Coffee Lake processors with GTX 1060 (the GX531GM model) or GTX 1070 Max-Q (GX531GS version) graphics. It still gets up to 24 GB of DDR 4 RAM, with 8 GB of memory soldered on the motherboard and one available DIMM, but this time two M.2 storage slots.

Asus claims they especially looked at improving the cooling on this laptop. It still gets two fans and an ample layout of heatpipes, but the fans have more fins and increased CFM, and each of them gets two radiators this time around, one firing on the back and one on the side. The side vents were designed to flow air slightly backwards and away from a mouse that would be placed near the laptop, but also slightly upwards in order for the hot air to not end-up back inside through the intake-gap created by the AAS system.

The Zephyrus S will be available from September 21st in the US, and the i7/GTX 1070 configuration is already listed for \$1899, that is not a cheap item.

If you are dying for more information, please check out www.asus.com or <https://www.ultrabookreview.com/21721-asus-zephyrus-s-gx531/> for the full preview of this machine.

Robert Buga Head of IT

WELCOME BACK PARTY!

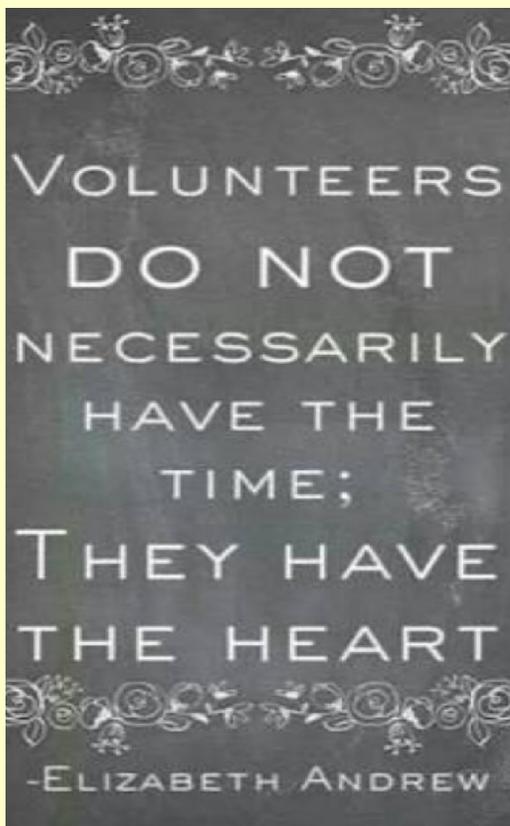
We invite all parents, teachers and students to join us on Friday 14 September for the first PTA event of the new school year. We will meet on the lawn outside the auditorium from around 4.15 to 7pm. There will be food and drinks available. We are excited to announce that we will have **hover boarding** available for the first time!

Please look out for posters around the school or messages regarding this event.



WILLING TO GET INVOLVED?

Please consider joining the PTA committee or become a Class Parent Representative. Speak to a member of the PTA or a teacher to find out more. We will be circulating volunteer sign-up sheets for the PTA events for Term 1 over the next couple of days. Give us an hour of your time!



GIVING BACK

As a school community, we believe in giving back. Over the past few years, the fundraising efforts of the PTA contribute to paying for school fees for 19 under-privileged scholars in Kampala. Over the coming weeks, we will introduce you this program. Next week, we pay their final term school fees for 2018. Your ongoing support at our events makes this possible.



Judith Kyule-Raval
KISU PTA Chairperson