



SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

Issue No: 277

Friday 30th October 2015

HEAD OF SECONDARY'S MESSAGE

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UP COMING EVENTS

31st Oct	ISSAK Fixtures
2nd Nov	House Shirt Day
4th Nov	Parent /Teacher Meeting Y8, Y9 & Y11
9th-13th Nov	Literacy Week
11th Nov	Poetry Evening
14th Nov	ISSAK Season 1 Finals @ KISU
16th Nov	ISSAK Season 2 Girls Trials
17th Nov	ISSAK Season 2 Boys Trials
18th Nov	ISSAK Girls Trials
20th Nov	Club A ends; ISSAK squads announced
21st Nov	2nd tracking Reports go home; IWO Bazaar TBC PTA Event
23-25th Nov	Club B Registration. No Clubs all week

Although we are only just into the second half of term 1 we are already thinking about next year. This week we held an initial meeting for Year 9 parents and students about options for next year and in this week's newsletter I have chosen to share with you some information about Cambridge IGCSEs. I think this will be of interest to all secondary parents as all our students are going to study are already studying or have recently finished studying IGCSE courses. The information below is taken from a Cambridge International Examinations booklet that can be downloaded from <http://cie.org.uk/images/84521-cambridge-igcse-brochure.pdf>

Over 10000 schools are part of the Cambridge learning community.

Cambridge programmes and qualifications are taken in more than **160 countries**. International General Certificate of Secondary Education (**IGCSE**) has been developed over 25 years and now attracts over **750 000 entries every year**. Over **2500 UK schools** chose to make IGCSE entries in 2013–2014.

The Cambridge approach supports schools to develop learners who are:

- **Confident** in working with information and ideas, their own and those of others
- **Responsible** for themselves, responsive and respectful of others
- **Reflective** as learners themselves, developing their ability to learn
- **Innovative** and equipped for new and future challenges
- **Engaged** intellectually and socially, and ready to make a difference in the world.

Syllabuses support schools by using learner-centred and enquiry-based approaches to learning.

The syllabuses are international in outlook. They have been created specifically for an international student body with content to suit a wide variety of schools and to avoid cultural bias.

IGCSEs develop learner knowledge, understanding and skills in:

- Subject content
- Applying knowledge and understanding to new as well as familiar situations
- Intellectual enquiry
- Flexibility and responsiveness to change
- Working and communicating in English
- Influencing outcomes
- Cultural awareness.

These are just some of the reasons why IGCSE is the **world's most popular international qualification** for 14 to 16 year olds.

Regards,

Terry Garbett,

Head of Secondary.

Fees

Please note that your children have hard copy invoices for Term 2 fees to give to you. If, for whatever reason, your child does not have an invoice for you, do please stop by our Bursars Office or drop the bursars an email at bursar@kisu.com.

Outdoor Education

Many thanks and congratulations to our team of primary staff on the excellent outdoor education experiences that they organized and led for our students before the half-term break! I truly believe that an education at a good international school like KISU provides young people with a uniquely valuable experience and our vibrant outdoor education programme is an integral part of that.

KISU Switzerland Ski Trip 2016

There are already sufficient students signed up to make this year's trip viable but further spaces are available and can be secured by depositing \$200 with our Bursars. The overall cost of the trip (all inclusive) is likely to be in the region of \$2300.

Cognitive Abilities Testing

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, we are introducing Cognitive Abilities Testing in the course of the next few weeks. This is a sophisticated diagnostic tool that will really help us to know and understand our students better so that we can give them personalized support towards achieving their full academic potential. The results will also be incredibly useful when it comes to advising students about university and careers choices. It is a tool that I have used in each of my last four schools and that I have a great deal of faith in. There will be an information evening in the near future for those of you who would like to know more but for now please be assured that these are not the sort of tests that can be revised for and they are not for any kind of accreditation. They are about giving us reliable information about how each of our students learns best and about helping us to identify anyone who may currently be working below their true potential so that we can intervene quickly. From my previous experience with the tests I can also assure you that the students will not find them particularly arduous or unpleasant, not least because there is no actual writing involved and each test is really quite short (8-12 mins). Schedules for the tests are currently being drawn up by the respective Heads of Schools and we intend to have current Years 5, 7, 9 and 11 sit them. At the beginning of next academic year, we will also test Years 5, 7, 9 and 11, as well as any new students, so that we will have results for all students from Year 5 upwards from September 2016. If you would like to know more, why not have a look at the CAT 4 website at <http://www.gf-assessment.co.uk/products/cat4-cognitive-abilities-test-fourth-edition>

Best wishes,

Steve Lang.

Assembly Performance



In this week's assembly we witnessed a trio of IB students performing *Light Sounds*, an instrumental song they composed over the mid-term break. On the electric guitar was Devin, the piano was played by Joe, and Fabrice kept everyone in time with the music by providing the drum rhythms. We congratulate the trio upon their new composition as well as a wonderful performance.

Secondary Music Recital 2015

Our Music Recital is scheduled to take place on December 02 starting at 5.30 pm. It will feature students performing on various instruments including voice, piano, guitar, flute, drums & violin. If your son/daughter is taking individual

music lessons and is one of those that are scheduled for the recital, please encourage them to keep practicing regularly in order to have a good performance!

Secondary Music Night

The Secondary Music Night is scheduled to take place on December 09 starting at 5.30 pm. It will feature all secondary music students taking part in group performance of some of what they have studied over this whole term. You are all welcome to this performance.

Dr. Benon Kigozi, Head of Music



Samsung Galaxy View



This week Samsung is back in my news for again the right reasons and the buzz is their new 18.4 inch tablet. Lets just call it a portable TV.

The theme with tablets of late seems to be "make them bigger." But while Apple's 12.9-inch iPad Pro

and Microsoft's 12.3-inch Surface Pro 4 are 2-in-1s that double as laptops, Samsung's ginormous Galaxy View is more about video.

The Korean company sees the new tablet as a media player that you can plop down in the living room, pick up and prop up in the bedroom without skipping a beat – as evidenced by its built-in handle and kickstand.

Samsung has customized the device's Android 5.1 software with a video streaming home screen, including shortcuts to services like Netflix, Hulu, Twitch and YouTube (at least they're shown in Samsung's promo materials; the company says its content partners will vary by region).

The kickstand is designed for two viewing modes: both propping the device upright and a second position where the screen is nearly horizontal:

In other areas, the Galaxy View has a built-in 5,700 mAh battery with an estimated 8 hours of video playback, and a (non-descript)

octa core processor clocked at 1.6 GHz. The device weighs 2.65 kg (5.8 lbs), heavier than more than six iPad Air 2s. This clearly isn't the device for handheld web-surfing or *Candy Crushing*.

Samsung believes there is a space between the tablet and the TV, and the Galaxy View fills that hole. "We're seeing that time viewing spent on traditional TVs is actually on the decline, and when people even are watching traditional TV, there are other screens in the household using online content," explained Adam Giles, Samsung's UK Product Manager. "And we're seeing the growth of online services as well."

The Galaxy View represents Samsung's response to that gap, and the company believes it gives users all the streaming and portability benefits of a tablet – with something approaching a TV-like screen size. "One of the big frustrations is that they might be watching sport and then they have to go and do something, or someone comes in demanding the TV-rights," explained Giles.

Samsung hasn't listed any official pricing for the Galaxy View yet, but a prematurely posted pre-order page earlier this week pointed to a US\$599 price tag. If its mammoth screen size appeals to you, that may sound tempting, but remember that any up-close tablet tasks you use the View for are going to look very pixelated (far from "Retina"). If you asked me if I would be interested in getting one, I would say for now, I am not sure but who knows later.

Robert Buga, Head of IT

CLUBS

We have completed week 7 of session A clubs as of now and are beginning to prepare for club session B. Please note, you will not be receiving the list of clubs or the sign-up form by email. From now on, you can download these from our school website and then e-mail the sign-up form to sportsdirector@kisu.com. You can expect the same great clubs and even more such as Yoga for Kids and Checkers!

Some important dates:

Club registration will be open from 9am on Monday 23rd November and close at 9am on Thursday 26th November

Club session A ends: Saturday, November 21st

Club session B begins: Monday, November 30th

BREAK for holiday Monday December 14th

RETURN from holiday Tuesday, January 5th, 2016

Public Holiday January 26th

BREAK for holiday Monday, February 15th

RETURN from holiday Monday, February 22

Club session B ends: Friday, March 5th

ISSAK**Season 1**

The regular season schedule is coming to an end and teams are working hard to secure a spot in the playoffs to be held Saturday November 14th at KISU!

KISU will be hosting schools tomorrow, Saturday, October 31st, for football and basketball matches, while our boys travel to ISU. Our players and coaches always enjoy having some fans behind us! Be sure to come cheer on our Lions!

Season 2

Trials for football and basketball will take place, for **girls' teams, on Monday, November 16th and Wednesday, November 18th** while the **boys will try out Tuesday and Thursday** (with the exception of the U11 boy's football team who will have their second trial on Friday, November 20th due to the year 5/6 production Thursday evening).

Cross country and Athletics trials are largely based on students' performance in the house competitions and PE performance. If coaches require more evidence, trials will be held.

Primary- Football

U7 mixed- Mr Alfred & Mr Yovan

U9 Girls- Ms Saba Rewald

U9 Boys- Ms Rehema

U11 Girls- Ms Rothwell

U11 Boys- Mr Buga & Mr Kaggwa

Secondary- Basketball

U13 Girls – Ms Kerruish

U13 Boys- Mr Dancan

U16 Girls – Mr Teritope Ahmed

U16 Boys- Mr Hans De Heer & Mr Teritope Ahmed

Open Girls- Miss Racquel Theberge & Mr Teritope Ahmed

Open Boys- Mr Hans De Heer & Mr Teritope Ahmed

Whole School- Cross Country and Athletics

HOUSE**House Shirt Day:**

House shirt day is on **Monday, November 2nd**! Wear your house shirt and earn some points for your house!

Primary students are to wear their house shirts and beige shorts, unless it is a PE day for them, in which case, they should wear their black shorts.

Secondary students should wear their house shirts and beige shorts and bring their black shorts & PE shirt to change into if they have PE.

Upcoming House Events!

Wednesday, November 18th- *'The Chef in You' food tech. Competition.* Mr Kizoto, the house committee and a small group of DP students are collaborating to organize this competition to display our students' talent in the kitchen! More details to come soon!

Wednesday, December 16th- *House Quiz and Battle of the Bands!* KS2 and Secondary students will put their brains together to win the house quiz. Later in the morning, they will take over the stage and show off their musical talent.

Secondary Outdoor Education

This week is fast approaching! Make sure you are prepared and are gathering all the equipment and resources you will need. A friendly reminder that payment is due, directly to the bursar, by next Friday, November 6th, 4:30 pm.

Regards

Racquel Theberge,

Sports Director.

Dear All

Welcome back, I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable mid-term break. I trust you all feel refreshed and ready to tackle the last half of the 1st term, as there is a lot going on within the next 7 weeks .

Upcoming PTA Events:

Friday 30th October – PTA Halloween Movie Night

Saturday 31st October – ISSAK catch-up day (PTA Stand)

Friday 13th November – PTA Quiz Night

Saturday 14th November – ISSAK Finals day (PTA Stand)

Thursday 19th November – Y5&6 Production (PTA stand)

Tuesday 1st December – Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Plus, plus, plus...parent/teacher meetings, poetry, drama & music evenings and sporting events – ISSAK fixtures, swimming galas etc... so please ensure that you read the newsletter and diarise events in order not to miss any.

With our next PTA event being about HALLOWEEN, I thought it would be interesting to delve into the history behind this ancient festival...

It actually originated 2000 years ago in Ireland, England and Northern France, during the Celtic Festival of Samhain. This festival took place on 31st October and marked the end of summer and the harvest; and the beginning of the dark and cold winter. It was a time when families felt especially close to their deceased relatives and friends - leaving food & treats on doorsteps, bonfires lit and masks worn to both protect the living and help the deceased loved ones find their way back to the spirit world, and/or ward off any unwanted spirits.

In 43 A.D. the Roman Empire had conquered the majority of the Celtic territory and the Romans combined their two festivals of origin – Feralia & Pomona with Samhain. Feralia - was traditionally celebrated by the Romans commemorating the passing of the dead; and Pomona - was a day dedicated to honouring the Roman goddess of fruit & trees. The apple being the symbol of Pomona and this probably explains the tradition of 'bobbing' for apples.

In 609 A.D. Pope Boniface IV dedicated the Pantheon in Rome to all martyrs on May 13th.

Pope Gregory III later in the 8th Century expanded the festival to include all saints as well and dedicated November 1st as a time to honour all martyrs and saints, becoming known as 'All Saints Day', which incorporated some traditions of Samhain.

November 2nd was then known as "All Soul's Day" – a day to honour the dead in England, again, another tradition similar to Samhain, with the lighting of big bonfires, wearing costumes and that of trick-or-treating. Trick-or-treating, which probably dates back to All Soul's Day as the poor would beg for food and families would give them pastries called 'Soul Cakes' in return for their promise to pray for the family's dead relatives.

The All Saints Day celebration was also called 'All-Hallows' or 'All-Hallowmans' and the night before it, 31st October, the tradition of Samhain began to be called 'All-Hallows Eve' and eventually Halloween.

In the second half of the 19th Century, America was flooded with immigrants and this helped to popularise the celebration of Halloween.

In the 1800's there was a move in America to mold Halloween into a holiday, causing Halloween to lose most of its superstitions and religious overtones and by the beginning of the 20th Century Halloween had evolved into a secular, community-based event characterised by child-friendly activities such as 'trick-or-treating'!

Today in a number of different countries around the world, people continue to usher in the winter season with gatherings of costumes and sweet treats – so to those celebrating this festival – Happy Halloween.

Enjoy your weekend.

Kind regards

**Rose Bowmaker,
PTA Chair.**

The Caledonian Society is proud to present:



The St Andrew's Ball 2015

on Saturday, 28th November



Join us for whisky & wine, delicious food, traditional haggis and dancing to our live band at the 2015 St Andrew's Ball at Katonga Hall, Kampala Serena Hotel.

A Welcome Drink will be served at 18:30 and the Dinner will begin at 19:00.

Tickets:

Price: 225,000 UGX

For ticket reservations please email a reservation request with number and names of guests to caledoniauganda@gmail.com. Your reservation will be kept until one week before the ball, by which time you should have paid for and received your tickets.

Dress Code: Formal Kilt, National Dress or Black Tie