



SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

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SCHOOL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

As some of you may have heard me say the other evening at the primary "Meet the Teacher" event, our school may have caught fire as a school but that doesn't mean that we are about to sit back and warm our hands by the glow! We must continue to move forward- to strive to be even better. As I have now for both staff and students, I would like to, over the next three newsletters, set out for you three main areas of focus for us as a community this year.

1. Growth Mindset

Many of you will be familiar with this idea and with the work of Carol Dweck, perhaps its best known champion. Having a "growth mindset" is the opposite of having a "fixed mindset". With a fixed mindset we believe the prejudices about ourselves that have built over time. In a fixed mindset we say things like:

"I am good at sports"

"I can't sing"

"Your dad was good at Maths; that's why you are"

In doing so, we limit our potential for improvement in areas of both strength and weakness. If I was born good at sports then there is no real need to practice is there? And the clear implication in the second statement is that I will never be able to sing.

One well-known case study set out to find out what was the single factor determining which of a group of elite musicians would go on to become genuine virtuosi. Various factors were considered such as: level of exposure to other instruments; quality of teaching; age he/she started playing; level of proficiency on entering music school etc. And what was the single most influential factor?.....Practice! The researchers found a straightforward and very powerful statistical link between the number of hours of practice each student undertook and his/her chance of becoming true virtuosi. "Growth Mindset" is about believing in our own limitless potential; it is about focusing not on the current level of performance but on the current level of effort and having conviction that hard work will produce great results.

In our final two days of professional training prior to the start of the new academic year, Mark Poulter, a consultant and trainer from the UK, led us in a series of sessions designed to help us learn about "Growth Mindset" and think about how we could apply its lessons practically in helping our students to achieve amazing things. The observant amongst you will already have seen "Growth Mindset" displays in classrooms around school and perhaps be hearing things from your children that reflect work already done in this area. Doubtless some will have told you that I have banned sentences that begin with the words "I can't..." which is true enough...I have! Perhaps you could support with the same at home or another suggestion might be to evaluate as a family how often you are guilty of falling into fixed mindset thinking or language.

Steve Lang-School Director

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UPCOMING EVENTS

1st Sept	Eid Al-Adha
4th Sept	House Colour Day
4th Sept	Y11/DP1 parent information evening
4-15th Sept	CAT testing week
8th Sept	U13&U16 football Vs Raising Stars
18th Sept	PTA general Meeting
27th Sept	House Athletics

Dear parents,

Please remember that we are a **strictly nut-free zone** because we have a number of children with quite serious allergies to nuts.

Regards

Steve Lang

School Director

Cambridge International General Certificate of Education (IGCSE) examinations is the world's most popular international qualification for 14 to 16 year olds. At KISU we offer 15 IGCSE programmes for our students to choose from. IGCSE are recognised by leading universities and employers worldwide, and is an international passport to progression and success. Developed over 25 years ago, it is tried, tested and trusted by schools worldwide.

Students at KISU have once again performed outstandingly well in this year's IGCSE examinations. For the 4th year running KISU students have not only exceed UK and world averages but they have also gained the highest percentage of A* to C grades in the school's history. Some particular highlights are:

Joel Biju Thomas	8A*	Soma Rushyanthreddy	6A* and 2A
Jasmine Okidi	4A* and 4A	Usama Sakrani	4A* and 4A
Kanen Kuruvilla	3A* and 6A	Victoria Furrer Valencia	2A* and 4A
Asad Manji	7A	Emilie Viguier	6A

We are also very proud of our First Language French results with 80% of students achieving A*, A or B.

We would like to congratulate all our IGCSE candidates and wish them well as they embark on our IB Diploma programme.

Teacher speak

Sometimes teachers use acronyms that they think everybody knows and understand. Things like "The KS3 student has an IEP which has to be taken into account when carrying out APP" If that makes sense to you then you are fluent in 'Teacher speak'. If like most parents it did not mean a thing then the table below might make things clearer.

KS3	Key Stage 3	Years 7, 8 and 9
KS4	Key Stage 4	Years 10 and 11
IGCSE	International General Certificate of Secondary Education	The programme followed by the KS4 students
CAT	Cognitive Ability Tests	IQ testing undertaken in year 5, 7, 9, and 11 (and new students)
PSHE	Personal, Social and Health Education	Pastoral care subject
PE	Physical Education	Sports lesson
ICT	Information and Communication technology	Computer lesson
SEN	Special Educational Needs	
EAL	English Additional Language	For children needing to learn English as another language
L2L	Learning to Learn	A lesson at KISU to help students learn more efficiently.
MFL	Modern Foreign Language	Foreign Language in KS3 and KS4– French, in IBDP French or Spanish
ISSAK	International Schools Sporting Association in Kampala	Inter-school sporting competitions.
SMART target	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timely	The way teachers and students set appropriate targets
NCE	National Curriculum of England	The curriculum which KS3 is based upon
HoD	Head of Department	Person leading the department
PTA	Parent and Teacher Association	All parents and teachers are members of this committee which aims to support the school
CPRs	Class Parent Representative	A parent that is a communication link to other parents in their child's year group
CIE	Cambridge International Examinations	The IGCSE examination board used at KISU
CIS	Council of International Schools	One of the Accreditation bodies for KISU
NEASC	New England Association of Schools and Colleges	One of the Accreditation bodies for KISU
IEP	Individual Education Plan	A target based document we use to support children with learning difficulties
ILP	Individual Learning Plan	A target based document we use to extend our more able children
IBP	Individual Behaviour Plan	A target based document we use to support children with behavioural difficulties
VLE	Virtual Learning Environment	An online learning platform
APP	Assessing Pupil Progress	Assessment of student learning.

We will be adding to this list over the next few weeks and will upload it to our website when it is complete.

A warm welcome to all our new students and parents, and to our continuing ones! Please take note of the following information about our music program!

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 intensive 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 or Primary office or from the reception area.

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. This years' Music Recitals will take place on 7th and 8th December 2017 at 5pm and 5.30 pm. respectively.

Associated Board of the Royal School of Music Examinations 2012

KISU is a center of the International Music Examinations of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. Students that take lessons on individual instruments are presented with the opportunity to take an examination conducted by an international assessor from England. Should you wish to have your child examined under this scheme, please let me know so that we start working towards that as per the syllabus.

Dr. Benon Kigozi,
Head of Music

Diesel On Full Guard

A few weeks ago one of my favourite watches stopped working and when I went online to look for one, I found myself again drawn to smart watches. The truth is the technology in Smart watches keeps improving that every brand now wants to get into the game. Today we shall look at a new entry by Diesel.



One of the things you want to do when you come up with a product you want to take over the market is a proper name and this Diesel got right, their watch is called "On Full Guard" and that should give you some ideas where they are going with it. They took inspiration from their traditional watches and to see it looks great would be a great understatement. This watch is all about design. It has been made to look good on the wrist and it does that very well. It is chunky but again that is what we want, a good looking chunky watch.

The On Full Guard, which is just the first of the 4 models comes outfitted with a black casing and brown leather strap. It is available on pre-sale for \$325 only so, what makes this watch special anyway?

The On Full Guard watch runs Android Wear 2.0. The user interface can't be customized by manufacturers like regular Android on your phone, so the style stays consistent across all Android Wear watches. It's faster and easier to use than Android Wear 1.0, and apps can be loaded onto the watch itself

The most interesting things about the Diesel On Full Guard is the software enhancements the company is making via its Diesel T-ON-I smartwatch app.

The Qualcomm Snapdragon 2100 processor, designed for wearables, powers the Diesel On Full Guard with 512MB of RAM and 4GB of internal storage space. Performance is more than adequate. The 1.4-inch circular screen is bright enough to be seen outdoors, and the automatic brightness adjustment worked as expected. It's also very colourful and deals with the iridescent hues beautifully. The 454 x 454 pixel resolution makes it sharp and crystal clear, and is higher resolution than most other Android Wear watches. It really shows. The screen's clarity perfectly complements the watch's bold look, and highly-detailed watch faces.

One of the down sides of this watch is the poor battery life. It hardly gives you 24 hours of use because of the small battery it is fitted with which means you should always have your charger handy. The Diesel On Full Guard is a fashionable smart-watch, where features come second to the style. While this is not a bad thing — smartwatches, like analog watches, should be as much about the look as the features — it's important to point out what you don't get. It doesn't have a heart rate sensor, GPS, or NFC.

Now that we have that out of the way, if you are planning to buy a smart watch to replace your phone then this is not the one to buy but if you want a watch that is bold and speaks about your taste and less about the functionality of the devices, then this one has spoken and should be chosen.

Robert Buga - Head of IT

Dear All

I bet you are all settled in by now. What a great coffee morning we had this week. I would like to thank you all that made it for our coffee morning. For those that couldn't make it please join us next week for yet another coffee morning on Wednesday 6th September at 7:45am in the area above the main reception. It was such a joyous morning meeting you all and I would like to thank the new parents that have volunteered to join the PTA this year. This week we have 6 parents that have volunteered to join the PTA. Thank you once again.

The PTA would kindly request anyone interested in joining the committee, to please let me know – pta@kisu.com. We will be having our PTA meeting for this term on Monday 18th September at 4:30pm. In is this meeting, we will be filling up vacant positions. All parents, legal guardians and teachers at KISU are welcome as we all automatically form the PTA. Our active participation on the PTA is a great contribution to our children's school environment.

As a volunteer to the PTA Committee, you would be joining an organization managed by other parents and teachers of KISU that works in support of the school. Your requirements would be to provide a formal channel of communication between the students, parents, teachers, school administration and the Board; to attend our AGM & a meeting once a term; assist with purchasing of stock for our snack shop; helping out at sports events/kids movie nights/school productions/social fundraising events...etc., selling refreshments and any other support required for extra-curricular activities for the school. A roster system will be drawn up to ensure that committee members rotate duties evenly and that you are not always required to help out at every event/function.

Big congrats to all those students that have been selected to join the ISSAK teams and we wish you the best in your endeavor to put KISU on top in all the ISSAK games.

Clubs begin next week on Monday 4th September. In case of any query regarding the clubs, please contact the sports director Racquel at sportsdirector@kisu.com

Upcoming Events

Monday 4 th September	House shirt day
Wednesday 6 th September	Coffee morning 7:45am at area above main reception
Wednesday 18 th September	PTA general Meeting
Wednesday 27 th September	Secondary House Athletics
Thursday 28 th September	Primary House Athletics

Enjoy your long weekend.

Thank you.

Julia Karungi Kimbaleeba

PTA Chairperson

KISU PTA COFFEE MORNING



Wednesday 6th Sept 2017 @ 07:45am

Venue: Above the main Reception area

All new parents and old parents are welcome and we
look forward to meeting you.