

10 May 2024

Dear Parents,

Term two is moving at a furious pace. Trusting that we will all work together as we enter the third week of the term.

Whilst not a big event, in terms of traditional festival numbers, last week's Hockey festival was a great way to mark the beginning of our Sports calendar. It could only be described as a warm and successful community event.

The games were played with such good spirit and camaraderie, and our boys and girls played their hearts out to finish 3rd overall in the tournament. They made us proud.

Congratulations to Gateway High School for finishing top of the girls' group and to the University of the North West for finishing first in the boys' section.

I extend my thanks to all staff and students who contributed to making the event a success. Thank you to our parents for their attendance, and I express our deepest gratitude to our parents who assisted in running the tuckshop and boerewors roll stand. It was really a community in action.

We send our best wishes with our Hockey Team as they travel to Johannesburg accompanied by Mr. Chiyangwa and Coach Whitney.

Week 2

We kicked off our week with the Top Achievers Assembly to honour the top 5 students who excelled in their academic programme in Term1 across the Forms. This assembly is also designed to inspire other students to strive to do better. The threshold for qualification is maintaining an average of 75% and above in all subjects. It is worth noting that most of the top achievers exceeded an 80% average in all their subjects.

Thank you to all staff who work so hard to strengthen the Academic tone in the school.

On Monday afternoon we held the Interhouse Quiz competition. Again, another enjoyable event.

Congratulations to Green House for taking top honours in a fiercely contested Quiz. Special mention of the Green House Junior Team that consisted of Form 1 students only, who put up a gallant challenge in the junior section of the quiz.

Thank you to Mr Baka and his Team of adjudicators for running such a smooth and stimulating event.

Excursions

Wishing all our Grade 4 -6 students and staff safe travelling mercies as they explore the outdoors of the Northwest province on their annual camp outings from 13-16 May.

Equally wishing our Tshukudu hostel senior boys a safe and enjoyable trip on their hostel outing to Johannesburg on Saturday.

Compulsory Attendance at Whole School Events

Parents I would like to make an appeal for your support in compulsory attendance by our students, at all Interhouse events which are scheduled for Monday afternoons.

There are three scheduled events for the balance of Term 2 as highlighted in Green in the Academic and Extracurricular programme.

Debating – 10th June

Soccer and Netball -1st July

Volleyball - 8th July

The notion of locking gates to force participation is not my style of leadership, however I am a very strong advocate for building a culture of inclusivity and Team support for each other. Students must be seen to support fellow students whenever there are whole school events. Please note the middle gates will be closed on the published dates above. I trust I will receive your support in this regard.

Find attached a well written piece by Chanda Chishimba (ISSA alumnus) which demonstrates the value of Learned Team experience.

Science Fair

Today the Primary School will be holding their Annual Science Fair from 9:00. This is a very inspirational exhibition by our budding scientists.

Thanks to Prof Bahadur Singh (parent) from Northwest University Chemistry department who will be teaming up with our budding scientists to conduct a few exhibition experiments for our students.

Wishing Ms. Moamogwa and her Team a successful day.

Mini Olympics

On the 17th May, our Pre Primary School will be hosting their Annual Mini Olympics at the International School of South Africa's Athletics track. The march-past will begin at 8.30 am. I look forward to seeing you all there. Wishing Mrs Michelle Swart and her Team all the best as they prepare to host our neighbouring pre- schools.

Staffing

We are experiencing slight staff movement at the school.

With the departure of Mr. Jeffery Munatsi at short notice last term, we have managed to find a strong experienced replacement who will join us after Midterm, while serving their notice at their current school. I extend my deepest gratitude to Mr. Taruvona and Mrs. Makudo for going the extra mile during this transition, and for ensuring the teaching and learning of our students has not been interrupted. Thank you to Mr Nheera as well for stepping up to the plate by assisting during this interim period.

We also bid farewell to Mr. Chiyangwa who leaves us at the end of May. We will extend our official goodbyes and gratitude to him later this month. He will be replaced by an experienced Biology teacher who will be joining us from the 1st of June.

I will formally introduce our new members of staff as they join our community later this Term.

Thank you for your patience and understanding and support in this regard.

Winter ailments

With winter fast approaching, I urge parents to take the necessary health and safety precautions to ensure our students stay healthy and free of illness this term. Received information suggests that there are a few strands of influenza doing their rounds. I urge parents to err on the side of caution. If children bear any flu like symptoms, please keep them at home. We will also monitor the school and boarding environment very carefully by keeping parents abreast in the event of any unanticipated developments that may arise during this period. As we all know, the flu jab is always recommended during this period.

Conclusion

Thank you for all your support and I look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events. Please do not hesitate to call me if there is anything you wish to clarify.

"If it matters to the child, it matters to us"

Yours sincerely



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