

30 April 2026

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Term 2 as we reach the end of the second week.

I have just returned from a successful marketing trip in Malawi and look forward to welcoming 4 new families into the ISSA community later in the year. As always, I thank the Malawian community for their consistent warm reception of our school in their country.

We have had a fabulous start to the Term. This is a long and demanding term with a reprieve of a Mid Term break on the 13th June – 21st June 2026.

Term 2 is an exam term populated with other very important events as published in our Academic and Extracurricular Term Calendar

As we move along in Term 2, I ask parents to provide a balanced, supportive and conducive environment for studying within our homes as the students hit the ground running this term. In our Assembly this week, we shared with students how to establish the right balance and discipline in their time management, by setting clear goals and pushing themselves a little further with all the competing demands of the Term Calendar.

We also ask that we look after our student's overall wellbeing along the way, with the change of seasons which bring along with it a variety of ailments. If your child is feeling poorly, please keep them at home by following the prescribed protocols until they are restored to good health, which must always be accompanied by a valid doctor's sick note upon their return to school.

Our AS June series Cambridge examinations are well underway, and we wish our students all the best during this period.

Top Achievers Assembly

This week we celebrated and congratulated our Top Achievers, whom have been recognised for academic excellence in Term 1. We are encouraged by the high bar which students have set for themselves. There is fierce, healthy contestation among our students for top honours, and there is equal recognition for those students who have made great strides in their academics through consistent work.

Outstanding Learning Cambridge Awards - Top in South Africa

We are delighted to inform you that two of our students achieved Top Honours in the May/June 2025 examination series and the November 2025 series respectively.

Ann Hagan, Top Achiever 1st in South Africa, AS Economics

Gabriel Kampondeni, Top Achiever 1st in South Africa, IGCSE English Literature.

Congratulations to both Ann and Gabriel for this sterling achievement and we extend our congratulations to their parents for the support which they have provided along this journey.

Congratulations to Mr. Philemon Mapfumo, (Economics teacher) for his hand in producing this outstanding result and to Mr. Clinton Roberts, (IGCSE English teacher) equally for his role and guidance in producing this fine result.

This achievement is a demonstration of the high standard of education in our school, and a solid testimony in striving for excellence at International School of South Africa.

Thank you to all our teachers for their dedication and commitment to excellence as we continue to strengthen our academic tone and all other related programmes within our school.

Sport and Extra-Curricular Programme

Parents would all have received the Term Calendar. Our sports and enrichment programmes have commenced, and students have made their choices and have been allocated accordingly.

In my opening address for Term, I spoke about the importance of supporting the development of our sports programme within the school. Whilst we have dedicated codes that are on offer termly with the constant review of trying to improve our offering, our biggest challenge is that some of our students often do not honour the extra-curricular commitments for which they have signed up.

Teachers have also extended themselves in some instances.

This Term, Mr Gray has extended our Art Enrichment offering to Saturday mornings from 09:00 -11:00 for senior students who have a keen interest in Art, to develop their creativity even further over the weekends.

The Deputy Principal/Head of Sport and Discipline has put out an earlier communication with regards to expectations of the Extra-Curricular programme this term. We ask for your support in this regard.

Drama Production

Our Annual Drama production, **Naledi, "When the Earth Cries"** is well underway with a proposed live date on the 26th June 2026.

Watch this space closely. Parents, thank you in advance for your constant support in the pick-up and drop off routines of the cast. This is highly appreciated.

Athletics

We wish Chibueze Egbuna who will be representing North West Province in high jump at the South African High Schools Championships this weekend at Pilditch stadium in Pretoria. This event was

postponed from an earlier date in March. We wish him a successful competition this weekend. ISSA is behind you Chibueze!

Condolences

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the Gomes family, who have been long standing members and supporters of International School of South Africa, on the tragic passing of their parents last weekend. On behalf of all of us at International School of South Africa, we extend our sincerest commiserations, to Caitlyn (Head Girl two years ago), Chris and Nicole, all ISSA alumni, during this very difficult time. We ask that they be granted comfort and strength during this difficult period in their lives.

Conclusion

Finally, as we move through this term, let us be mindful of something bigger than ourselves. In a world often marked by division, we have a responsibility to model respect, understanding and unity. Let us practice peace in our daily interactions, in how we speak, how we listen, and how we treat each other in our daily lives.

Wishing you all a very productive Term 2 and thank you always for your loyal support.

“If it matters to the child, it matters to us”

Yours sincerely



Bruce Wells
CEO/Headmaster
International School of South Africa