



NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL ESPRESSO



JULY 2013

Dear Parents,

Yet another year has gone by and thanks to your support and grace of God, we have come out shining as an institution once again in our pursuit of excellence. As always, our termly school newsletter "Espresso" brings you the highlights of the term while wishing you a safe and happy holiday, wherever you may be.

Please find a sum up of all those exciting events that made 'NIS' such a special place for all our children this past term...memories are what keep us going and we surely paved way for some fantastic ones.. kindly read on to get a glimpse into the third term of 2012-2013..

JUNIOR SCHOOL

We have finally come to the end of another academic year after a busy yet exciting 3rd term.

During our Friday **Assemblies** the Kindergarten children entertained us with short poems, songs and dances. The Year 1 students took us back to the days of Sound of Music with their beautiful songs.

Certificates were awarded to students who made improvement in different subject areas.

Students from Yr. 2 and 6 completed the **SATs** for which they were very well prepared. Once again our students did us proud by achieving excellent results. Congratulations and well done!



Class Trips

The **Kindergarten** classes visited the Animal Orphanage but first learned the meaning of the word 'orphan' and what an orphanage is. It was all excitement as the children managed to see the lions, cheetahs, leopards, crocodiles, monkeys, zidongs and many others. They also learnt about the eating habits, behaviour and natural habitats of the animals.

Year 1, 2 & 4 students visited the Safari Walk which was an extremely exciting trip for them. They saw the animals in their natural habitats and learnt about their eating habits and ways of survival.

The children were all well behaved and attentive and impressed the park guides with how much they already knew. It was an educational and fun experience for all.

Year 3 students visited the Eldoville Farm in Karen. They had the opportunity to see the process of making yoghurt, how it is packaged, labeled and dispatched to various destinations. They also managed to purchase items like yoghurt, juice and cheese. There was a picnic site where the children had lunch together and got some time to play.

Year 5 and 6 students went for an overnight Trip to Sweetwaters Camp on the 21st June. Their first stop was at the Chania Falls in Thika. Their next stop was at the Equator in Nanyuki where they got to see a water demonstration led by a local guide.

On Saturday morning after breakfast the students headed to the Chimpanzee sanctuary within the Ol Pejeta conservancy. The tour guide had the bus stop by the roadside and they were lucky to see two lions lying underneath some shrubs. In excitement but in hushed tones all the students took photos and they got to see even more of the pride as more lions emerged and crossed over to the other side of the road. Their next stops were the William Holden Foundation where they got to see exotic animals like llamas and the Rhino sanctuary where the students fed a blind rhino that was in captivity and on their journey back to Nairobi, the group stopped at the Baden Powell House where they saw the graves of Baden and Olive Powell.

Music Club Concert took place on the 31st of May and students from the Music Club made a presentation of what they had been learning. The performances were very impressive as the students played various musical instruments and came up with beautiful songs and melodies.



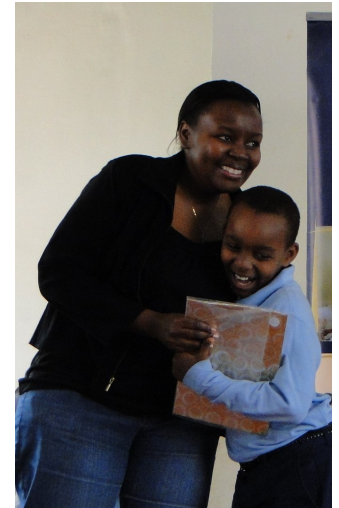


The Junior School Musical was undoubtedly the highlight of this term. **“Mowgli in The Jungle”** was successfully staged on 28th & 29th June 2013 to the High School Students and the Parents. This was a hilarious adaptation of Rudyard Kipling’s Book – The Jungle Book. A total of close to 200 pupils successfully staged the play either as actors, narrators, singers or dancers. The backdrop and stage set matched the theme very well and enhanced the comprehension of the play to the audience. It was a simple story line enjoyed by all the participants and the audience. The costumes and make up radiantly brought out the jungle theme befitting the original movie version! It was hard to single out any best actor or actress as the main cast acted their hearts out beyond expectation. Thanks to the Director of the play, Mr. Ojwang’ and the speech trainers who made sure the lines were not only mastered but characterized by the cast.

The parents and the audience were well entertained and commended the effort of the children, teachers and the whole school at large.



The Annual Prize Day and Graduation for Year 6 took place on the 5th of July the last day of school. All students who worked hard and excelled or improved in different subject areas were awarded prizes for their effort. We also bid farewell to the Year 6 students who graduated from the junior to the senior school. We wish them the very best in their future endeavors.



SENIOR SCHOOL

We have finally come to the end of the 2012-2013 academic year after a short but intense term with a number of extremely involving activities. It being an exam term for the candidates meant that we had to create an atmosphere conducive for the candidates. Early in the term, we held **prayers for the candidates** and this very solemn occasion was presided over by Father Gabriel Mureithi. It was a beautiful service which saw the entire student body and the staff, come together to humble themselves before God giving thanks and praying for guidance and peace. Even the normally restless students were absolutely calm and maintained a prayerful attitude. These prayers were followed immediately by the dedication of the **five new school buses**. No words can describe the moment when the navy blue white roofed buses smoothly swung into the front of the school all lined up in readiness for the blessing by Father Gabriel. It was an overwhelming moment of great jubilation and though not many will admit it, tears of gratitude came to their eyes. We thank God for His providence.



This term we held two **Parent - Teacher Consultations**: one for the Middle School and the other for the Senior School. Both meetings were quite well attended but we can do better. We also held two **Year 9 options meetings** during which the various subject teachers gave a general overview of their subjects and the possible career choices. We would like to thank the parents and students for taking keen interest and participating in this very important exercise. Still **on careers**, Ms. Ombeta organized two talks with visiting speakers: the first was by the Regional Director of Barclays bank, **Mr. Ramesh Kavil** and he talked to the Yr. 13's about what to expect at university in terms of settling in and on social and academic issues. The second talk was by **Chris Hart** a renowned counselling psychologist and writer and he focused on planning for the future in terms of setting and achieving goals and career choices. The students appreciated every minute of these presentations as they, in a way, gave them much needed guidance on how to go about college life.



The **inter-house choir competition** was held on 7th of June and was quite an interesting affair which was graced by Jenny and Gregg as the judges. Prior to that, the students had spent a lot of time rehearsing especially since the aim for each house was to out-sing (if there is any such word) the other houses! It was actually a fun event and it was nice to see whole houses belting out their songs on stage despite the fact that not all are song birds! At the end of the day it was the participation and team spirit that counted. **Leonardo** emerged winners beating Raphael narrowly by one point and the 3rd position was a tie between Donatello and Michelangelo. Well done to all houses and thank you to Mr. Watatua for guiding and coaching the students.



On 15th of July N.I.S hosted its 1st ever **Cultural Day**! It was quite an ambitious event that involved the Junior School as well. What had started out as a Swahili Day last year took a different dimension this year and was a runaway success thanks to the students, parents, teachers and Mrs. Lee who put their all into it. The theme of the day was **Unity in Diversity** and this was aimed at helping us all to appreciate each other irrespective of color, creed or race. The visiting groups, students and even parents and staff showcased different cultural practices and talent through entertainment galore - song, dance, skits, fashion shows, cultural parades and poetry from across the world.





The showstoppers for the day were the brilliant bhangra dancers and the martial arts group who presented some breathtaking stunts. The guests were kept entertained from 11a.m to 5.00 p.m. and there was never a dull moment. Running simultaneously were the 25 national tents which had been hired by parents and other friends of N.I.S and they had an array of items on display and for sale including mouthwatering food and drinks, clothing, shoes, handbags, jewelry, materials and so much more .All in all it was a great day, thanks to our students, parents, staff and visitors. We would not have done it without each and every one of you.

N.I.S' 2nd graduation took place on 21st of June and just about 100 parents and friends turned up to witness their children bid high school good bye . In his speech, the Guest of Honor, Rob Williams, Managing Director of the Braeburn Group of Schools, emphasized the need for the students to appreciate the high quality of education and exposure they were getting by being at N.I.S. This graduation was very significant as it saw four pioneer students graduate namely, **Antoninah Obiero** (Head girl, 2012-2013), **Nyambura Rubia**, **Angela Etale** and **Chelsea Nyauma** along with 34 other graduates .In her vote of thanks, Mrs. Lee expressed her profound gratitude to the parents of the four pioneer students for having enough faith in the school to entrust their children to us in the early stages of its formation. The graduates were presented with their certificates and the emblem to the Gold Key Society officially making them N.I.S alumni. The graduation was followed by the **'Prom'** on 22nd of June at the Southern Sun Hotel. The event which was a masquerade ball was attended by the Yr. 13's, 12's and 11's . . . the ladies turned up looking very svelte in their elegant evening gowns and the gents looking very sharp in their suits and tuxedos .The food was great and we all ate to our fill and the music rocked the stage keeping almost everyone, the young, the not so young and the 'senior' citizens on their feet until midnight. Prizes for the best dressed went to Ian Lubembe and Nyambura Rubia, the 'Prom' Queen and King prizes to Vanessa Kimani and Cedric Okumu.



As is the norm, 3rd term occasions the appointment of the new prefect body- a total of 20 prefects were elected across Yr. 10 to 12 after a thorough vetting process. The prefects will be lead by **Eric Cauri** and **Esther Amayo as the Head Prefects**. They will be deputized by **Zaafir Charania** and **Ethar Sirelkhatim**. So far the prefects have hit the ground running and have already made a big difference in the school. We wish them the best.



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OUTSTANDING CAMBRIDGE LEARNER AWARDS, KENYA

Two former N.I.S Students **Hiba Haris** and **Uroob Haris** have been recognized by C.I.E as learners from around the world who have demonstrated exceptional performance in Cambridge Examinations! Hiba gained the highest mark in Kenya in A Level Applied ICT and in A Level Economics plus an award for scoring the joint highest overall mark in Kenya for Best Across Three Cambridge International A Levels in the June 2012 examinations. Uroob Haris on the other hand, gained the highest mark in Kenya for I.G.C.S.E Mathematics without course work and in Food and Nutrition examinations of 2012. These awards are an encouragement to all students at N.I.S that their academic success will be recognized and to the teachers that their hard work is paying off. Well done!

INTERNATIONAL STAR AWARD FOR QUALITY (ISQA)

And in more breaking news, (drumroll!). . . N.I.S been voted for by members of B.I.D (Business Initiative Directions), an international organization that monitors quality and excellence in companies in over 118 countries world wide, to receive the **ISQA Award in the Gold category** in Geneva on the 29th of September 2013. This prestigious award, given to leaders by leaders is sponsored by 26 media publications, all oriented towards change and market trends, focused on innovation, growing brands, technology and new products. This award is a clear indicator that N.I.S truly on the path to achieving academic excellence.

We are also so proud to announce that **Robin Njenga**, an N.I.S Alumnus (2009), graduated with a BSc. Degree in Biochemistry and Cell Biology from University of Jacobs in Germany. Thanks to technology we were able to watch her graduation LIVE! It was awesome and rewarding watching one of our very own, stand there and make a speech as student representative. We must be doing something right!



EVERY THING PHYSICAL.

At last the break comes for us to rest our weary bones. This has been a term of highs and lows in both netball and rugby. A few fixtures and tournaments punctuated this term's sporting activities facing stiff challenges as we went along. Inevitably the fixation on football and basketball seems to have reared its head at every turn and setting our sights at the term's major sport was quite a challenge with the lower cadres. With dropping temperatures, swimming hasn't been the most popular activity. However there has been the "die hards" who have redefined "come rain, come sunshine" or is it, "come hell or high water". Anyway, enough with the moaning!!



In retrospect, it has been an eventful year that has come to conclusion with a crop of budding athletes stepping into bigger shoes as was the case in the rugby tournaments. The Under 19 lads (big lads) made the finals of the Braeburn garden festival in their first appearance...can I get a hurrah! While the under 17's and 15's made an impression in their respective tournaments where the former.....or is it latter (you can tell it's the P.E guy writing this) went on to tame the likes of Rosslyn, Braeburn and ISK.

And so the cycle begins again. Football!!! for boys and Basketball for girls. Our slogan being "**with intent**" The clamor for football will be tested as we gear towards getting some **silverware** next term. Of course the girls are also at it and I do not doubt their intent either. There definitely is resolve in the team and I have great expectations looking forward to term 1.

Come September, it will be all systems go with rounders and swimming as well. Hopefully everyone will find their niche.....and a bit of glory wouldn't hurt either.

Until then, hasta la vista and have a great holiday.



From the Director's desk we wish you all a very happy holiday. Strive to be the best person you can be each and every single day of your life . . . there is a seed of greatness in you all.

God bless you.

