



Official Pool Opening

Special Report

Swimming Gala

Entertainment

Sporting-

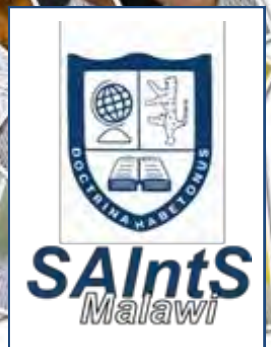
Fixtures

Interact

Saint Andrew's International High School

School Newsletter (Term 1, volume 4)

International Weekend Special Edition



Another Term Completed at SAIntS!

Sometimes it is hard to keep up as Headteacher with the amount of great things going on at SAIntS. As we approach the December holiday period, I would like to thank teachers, parents, and sponsors for all their support and hard work during an action packed term.

Since we sent out our last newsletter, we have amazingly:

- Officially had our swimming pool opened by His Excellency Honourable Dr. Lucius Manyemba, MP;
- Started work on converting three of our concrete tennis courts to clay courts as advised by Tennis Malawi and sponsored by Aon;
- Held a very successful PTA organized International Weekend;
- Seen a wonderful Fashion Show;
- Hosted Basketball's National Championships at heavily subsidized cost;
- Hosted Samaritan Trust's soccer tournament free of charge;
- Cheered as students broke 11 swimming records at this year's gala;
- Seen students on the International Award challenge climb Mulanje mountain;
- Worn purple and voted with our hands held high for Human rights in Indonesia, organized and ran by our 6th form human rights group;
- Finalized plans for soccer and squash tours to Zambia and Zimbabwe respectively in Feb. 2011;
- Been proud to see our students selected to represent Malawi in Cricket, Golf and soccer.

All the events above could not have been possible without the skills, talents and expertise of our students, not only in participating, but in the organization and management of many events. It is part of our mission to empower students and the Sixth Form in particular are showing great teamworking and leadership.

Our PTA has worked tremendously hard – teachers and parents together putting on a great International weekend as well as supporting our gala and other events. The International weekend could not have been so successful without the many other parents who sponsored and supported the event.

Many businesses are supporting the school and I would like to thank AON for their support of tennis in Malawi and SAIntS, and Mr. Parrott and Illovo for their donation of sports umbrellas we saw so usefully used at the swimming gala. Our aim is to have built a new drama studio by Easter so that this vital subject can be taught to its full extent whilst external exams are taking place.

We would be interested to meet any parents who would be willing to help us plan and build a PTA clubhouse at the swimming pool area so that parents can have a place to sit and enjoy watching their children play sport.

May I take this opportunity to wish parents, teachers and students a happy and safe holiday, enjoyable Christmas celebrations and a happy New Year. I wish all year 11 and 13 students successful mock and resit examinations in January next year.

Mr G. N. Benbow (headteacher)



SAIntS Golf Day 2010

With a perfect day of sun, heat and more sun, the golfers of Blantyre and Limbe assembled at Limbe CC for the annual SAIntS Golf Day. An early start saw the Malawi Reinsurance team started us off just after seven, setting a strong pace that would see them come in third overall, closely followed by the Thornicroft players who were apparently propped up by Zach. The Doogles team thought about producing some quality golf, but in the end two of their team (which may or may not contain the author of this piece) decided to have a mental lie in on the course, although they did undertake some serious pruning of trees with their wilder shots!

Riz Omar's Maple Leaf Realty were the leaders in fashion (as far as golfers are capable of that!) in matching lemon kits, whilst the Bizarro 'Lumberjacks' team was a player short; luckily they made up for it with the number of shots they took, allowing them to prop up the field. As for the City Motors team, some experts felt that they were paying the price for Saturday night. However, there were a few individuals who managed to show their best. Zelda Humphries showed up all the guys by recording the longest drive, whilst Waseem Jussab managed to get closest to the pin on the 18th, pipping a disconsolate Mr. P to that prize; a stewards enquiry later felt that foul play had been had work!

Reaching the sharp end of the competition, the Green Photo team (led by ex-SAlntS teacher, Clara Lungu) came a very close second, but it was the guys of A.T. Carter who won through with 116 stableford points. In the individual competition, it was pleasing to see youth come to the fore.....and no that doesn't refer to Mr. House who stormed round with 40 points, proving that a total lack of practice does make perfect! It does though describe one of our Year 9 students, Khaleel Kassam, who, with his terrific score of 42 points, scooped the star prize of a trip to Nkwichi Lodge in Mozambique. An honourable mention should go to David Hayes for recording a 75, coming in a very honourable individual third – a tough ask from such a low handicap.

Our thanks must go to:

- Our incredibly generous sponsors: Nkwichi Lodge, Glens, Illovo, Nyasa Times, DHL and PTC, without whom the fundraising element of the day simply could not have happened
- The many 6th Formers who helped out on the day, especially some of our girls who managed to extort some outrageous bets!
- Limbe CC, which provided an immaculate venue. A massive thank you must go to the green keeping staff who ensured that the course was in immaculate condition.
- All our competitors, without whom there would not have been such excellent competition

We hope that the Golf Day will return in 2011 with even more competitors, helping the 6th Form of SAIntS to raise funds for their charitable causes and for their Grad Ball.

Mr. J. Percival (Head of Year 13)

Happy Christmas Holidays

Mrs. Gaunt & Mr. Percival would like to wish all our sixth-formers a happy Christmas holiday season and look forward to your return to SAIntS in January. Don't forget to study during the break to enable you to prepare for exams and coursework deadlines.



SAIntS Pool is Officially Open!

After a year with no swimming on the SAIntS campus, much to the delight of parents, students and staff, we are pleased to announce that the swimming pool is officially open! The pool was opened by the Honourable Dr Lucius Kanyumba, MP (Minister for Youth Development and Sports).

In the middle of the sporting activities taking place on Saturday as part of the SAIntS annual PTA run International Weekend, students offered a stunning performance of synchronized swimming to the back drop of the James Bond 007 soundtrack, only to be later rescued by our newly qualified student lifesavers to the cries of 'Help, I need somebody'!

Amongst other guests, Dr Kanyumba praised the work of SAIntS as well as the sponsors and partners of the project for providing a professional sporting venue, an example of good practice in Malawi. He pleaded to organizations across Malawi to follow suit and develop the sporting facilities of Malawi for the community.



Since the opening, the pool has been in constant use by classes, the boarders and visitors. The most celebrated event since the opening, of course, is the swimming Gala and you can see some of the photos below.

The pictures on this page give you some snapshots of the opening of the pool and pool usage here at SAIntS.

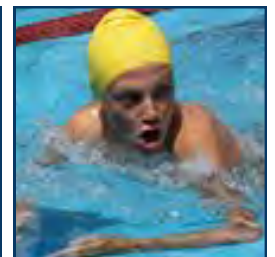
As a school, we are very grateful for the sponsors of our refurbished pool. These include AON Insurance, Ilovo

Sugar and Protea hotels. If you are interested in sponsoring a lane of the pool or any of our sporting facilities, please contact Mr Benbow to arrange a meeting.

The pool has been a team effort and we hope that the pool will now service the community of SAIntS and beyond for many years ahead and our commitment to development of the facilities continues with an investigation into the possibility of heated water.



The Pool Opening & Swimming Gala 2010 in Pictures



School Fees

Thanks to all parents for paying school fees promptly and on time this term. Invoices will be sent out at the end of this term for term 2. Please ensure that you receive one from your child.

Please also ensure that fees are paid in full by the 14th January 2011. Please observe this strict deadline. Thank you and have a great holiday and New Year.





Mulanje 2010

It was touch and go this year as to where the annual Year 12 sponsored event would take place. This was because we have the biggest Year 12 ever, with 85 students. However, after much deliberation and logistical organisation, it was decided that we would go ahead and attempt the Massif.

Preparations were put into place weeks in advance; food groups to organise, careful thought with regards to clothes and accessories, who would bring tents?

The two charities for which we would be raising funds were invited to come and promote their cause and they did equally well, the students deciding to split the funds 50:50. Their cause was often used to motivate those who were struggling up the Mountain; 'think of who you are doing this for,' was a common phrase used by staff at various points.

The day of the hike edged closer and last minute hitches were quickly ironed out. Unfortunately, a few students were unable to come for various reasons and this reduced the numbers down to a mere 78....still the largest number of students ever to be taken up Mulanje.

The day arrived and those going up the Nessa Path filled up the School Bus and mini bus with all of their katundu being placed in the lorry. This convoy left the school at 6.30 am and with no nasty speed traps, everything ran smoothly and the climb began at 8.30 am. Joining me up the Nessa Path was Mr Percival (including his bronchitis); Miss Smith (who had also got bronchitis); Mr Horrocks and Mrs Horrocks who led the Nessa Path and sorted out the 50 porters required; and Mr and Mrs Uglow (Mrs Uglow a last minute addition due to kind sponsorship by a parent). The mini bus stayed at the bottom of the Nessa Path, waiting in case we had to send back any students who were struggling, but this year, we were very proud as all of the students made it up. Some of the students did find this a real challenge, both physically and mentally but in record time, we all reached Luchenya Hut by 3pm. Numerous rehydration salts were distributed amongst the students when necessary, many short breaks



were given in order to replenish the body's energy stocks and some students even managed to admire the scenery! One aspect which was made very apparent was the care our students have for one another; even when finding the walk a real challenge, they were still able to motivate each other, share water when stocks were finished, and share snacks.

The Likhabela troop left slightly later than the Nessa bunch. Yet again, we were extremely grateful to Saint Andrew's International Primary School and Hillview Primary School who kindly let us borrow their buses, even though there was no diesel around.... The leader of the Likhabela path and the person in charge of the 35 porters was Mr Benbow. Joining him were Mrs Fountain, Mr Lawton, Fabien Alvares (ex-student....a lot of our ex-students still love coming back to SAIntS) and Mr Heron. A few of this group sprinted up in under three hours whilst others really struggled due to various issues such as altitude sickness.

With all of us up safely, some went for a cool swim in the stream below the Hut whilst others fought for, and hid the few mattresses available. The hungry ones amongst us started to cook whilst the exhausted ones just sat and tried to recover.

Everyone had eaten by half seven and lights (torches) were out by 9pm with Mr Benbow ensuring that everyone got a good night's sleep.

Due to the early bedtime, many of the students were up and cooking breakfast before 6 am. There were some very interesting cooking skills on display across the year with some tasty meals being mastered up on campfires. The one that really 'took the biscuit' was the boiling of the two minute noodles along with the packet of flavouring still in the packet. Apparently, the plastic disintegrates and the flavour then soaks the noodles! Please can that mum teach their child



how to cook two minute noodles properly! After everyone had showered, eaten and packed a lunch, we split into various walks, depending on how tired we all were. The ambitious students followed Mr Benbow, Mr Heron, Mr Lawton and Fabien up and along Simpson's Peak and then across to the crater for lunch. The next group sauntered across to the crater, admired the view and waited for the ambitious group to join them before all joining up and heading towards the falls. The tired group ambled around the vicinity and then sunbathed and swam at the falls for the day. As always, much fun was had at the falls and this year, for the first time ever, it did not rain at this point of the trip.



The trudge back up to the Hut from the Falls is always a little disheartening but after some more unhealthy snacks, energy was replenished and the students practised their campfire entertainment, slept, ate or chilled. Some also worried about the task of walking down the mountain the following day!



I have to say that we had high expectations of the campfire entertainment this year but the students did not live up to the displays of previous years and in fact, the best show was the 'ging gang gooley' performance led by Mr Horrocks with his assistant, Mr Benbow. Well done to them!



We had decided that the students and staff should walk down the opposite path to the one they had hiked up. After breakfast and a huge effort (by most) to clean up the Hut and the immediate surroundings, we set off down the Mountain. To say that it was hot would be the understatement of the article; it was boiling. Walking down that Likhabula path with the hot sun reflecting off the huge rock faces was not really that pleasant and a lot of the students found it very challenging; fainting and dizziness were quite common! There were similar happenings down the Nessa Path and it was a huge relief by all to reach the buses and mini buses.



Year 12 then still did us proud by coming into school on the Monday along with all of their injuries and lethargy and some even managed to stay awake the whole morning!



As I write this article, the sponsored money is still being handed in and I know that this year, we will break the record and raise the

most money ever. We are sponsoring two very worthwhile causes; helping to build a clinic down in a very remote area of Chikwawa and sponsoring a safe house for those victims who get caught up in child trafficking. A huge thank you to all of those who have made a huge effort with this side of the trip; you are citizens with a strong social conscience and you should be proud of your efforts; I know I am!

Mrs Gaunt (Head of Year 12)





November 12th/13th 2010

A Festival of Sport, Music, Dance and Cuisine to Celebrate the Internationality of St Andrews

Weeks of preparation and hard work culminated in a memorable International weekend which started on the Friday with junior teams participating in sports ranging from basketball, football to chess- a newcomer to the St Andrew's stage and one that will go from strength to strength.

The variety performance on Friday night showed just how talented and multicultural and varied our students are. From hip hop performances, poetry, Indian and Sri Lankan dancing to rock music. They all went down a storm with the students screaming for more in true SAIntS style. This was washed down with a never ending supply of burgers and drinks provided by the hard work-

ing PTA.

The senior sports on the Saturday had an unprecedented number of entries and the events ran smoothly under the cool professionalism of the sports department and commentator Mrs Tredinnick.

The smell of breakfast rolls, and waffles and burgers permeated the air and the PTA was there again to feed the increasing appetites. An interval at lunch time allowed some respite from the relentless heat as the new revamped pool was officially reopened by the Minister of Sport. Stuart Palmer, the MC introduced the event as the synchronized swimmers and life savers did a mock up of a James Bond themed sea rescue. Impressive by any International standards.

The Glittering Gala night dinner on Saturday night was sold out to the max as parents clamored to see the highly acclaimed entertainment and taste the wonderful international cuisine available nowhere else in the southern hemisphere. As soon as you walked in the wow factor décor promised a night to remember. As the acts from Irish to Greek to Sri-Lankan and Indian dancing to jazz, classical and rock music were introduced we were entertained by the one and only John Valentine, and this all evolved into a fantastic showcase of quality acts that would make any parent beam with pride. The food was out of this world and to the ladies who provided the mouthwatering international dishes ranging from Biryani to Bacalhau



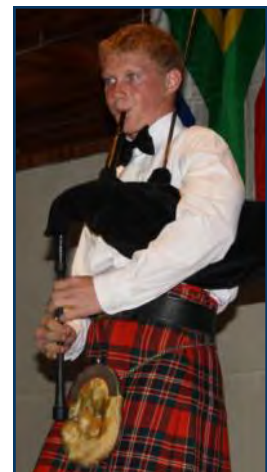
com Natas (salt cod) from Pastitsio to coconut milk curry from koeksisters to beans Mexican and Malawi style, we owe a depth of gratitude. Notably, the French dessert was piped in by Ian McMullen who, dressed in his kilt, showed his skill on the bag pipes.

The raffle prizes were the best ever and the top prize, an SAA flight to Johannesburg for 2 went to Mrs Karen Tselingas, Pumulani was won by Demelza Benbow and Club Makokola by Scalles Smit. Wilderness safaris to Nyika was won by Mr G Mtilini.

The PTA would like to thank all the participants and those who helped make this event so memorable- You know who you are!

Proceeds of the event go to developing school facilities such as the canteen for the benefit of all pupils now and in the future.

Diane Calisse,
(Vice Chair of the PTA 2010/)



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Thank you and goodbye

We came to this school not knowing what to expect.

We were welcomed with great friendliness wherever we went. We have done so many new and exciting things while being here for such a short time.

The International Weekend and the fashion show were so much fun! These happy memories will return to Ireland with us.

We'll never forget SAIntS and the warm people here who made our stay so memorable.

Thank you very much to everyone.

Liadan & Freya Tobin-Schnittger

Poetry Competition Winner

Iona Palmer (7N)



One World

I look up
Black clouds rolling across the sky
Blocking out the dazzling sunlight

I look down
Eroded, brown mud creeping through my toes
Tangled bags draping over tree roots

I look left
Recycling bins full of glass
A forest planted with new trees

I look right
Animals looking for a home
Chain sores piercing the barks of trees

We only have one world

Maths Department News

The Maths Department would like to clarify extra which mathematical equipment required for lessons; protractor, compasses, ruler, calculator (scientific for express pupils and all year 9 pupils and above). As a department we are also making use of assessment by the use of mini whiteboards during lessons. It has proved to be a fantastic way of assessing pupil knowledge and a way of moving our lessons on in the appropriate way – by means of support or extension work. We would therefore like to add a whiteboard marker to the current list of equipment. Every student is expected to bring the listed equipment to their lessons and the class teacher will monitor. Ability to bring required equipment to lessons is part of organisation in our reporting system. The department does not lend equipment to students.

We would also like to inform you of some useful mathematics websites:

<http://www.mymaths.co.uk>

LOGIN: SAIHS

PASSWORD: POINT

These are the school login details and every pupil also has a unique login number and password to keep track of their results. Within the site there is a section called BOOSTER PACKS that we highly recommend pupils to work through in preparation for exams. (eg – the pack called Ds to Cs is to encourage pupils to go over basic skills to boost their IGCSE grade from a D to a C).

<http://www.examsolutions.co.uk>

This contains some fantastic video tutorials for IGCSE, AS and A2 modules. An excellent resource for a student who misses a lesson.

<http://www.cimt.plymouth.ac.uk>

Click on RESOURCES, click on MATHEMATICS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME and scroll down to SECONDARY KEY STAGE 3. This has a excellent INTERACTIVE section , especially useful for pupils that have missed lessons or need extra support on the material. It also contains GCSE and A-Level material.

The student resources section of the school network also contains many past papers for IGCSE and A-Level as well as mark schemes. These can be accessed and saved by pupils as they need them.

We hope that students make use of these resources to aid their revision and support their learning.

Many thanks for your support.

Mr J Walasi



Interact visit to Open Arms Infant Home

On Monday 20th September 2010 our newly formed Interact group went on our first visit to a local children's home. Our aim is to help the local community, and improve their living environment in any way we can.

Objective of visit:

One of the projects we are eager to get involved with is helping children in Malawi. Open arms is a reputable childcare provider and we thought it would be a worthwhile visit. The objective of our visit was to try and understand how Open Arms works and how they have succeeded in building a successful infant home and sustaining the funding needed to run it. Our thinking was, we could then look to help develop younger and smaller children's homes and possibly transfer Open Arms successful operating methods.

The Visit

At Open Arms we were met by Mrs Phiri and Mr Bevis who gave us a tour of the site and explained Open Arms background and some of their current projects. We learnt that Open Arms should never be referred to as an orphanage, as it is not. It is in fact a temporary infant home. Most of the children housed at Open Arms have relatives who visit them and will, in time, hopefully take them back to their homes. However, if and when the children are returned to their village or community, Open Arms will continue to visit them regularly to make sure the child is being cared for appropriately.

Where children don't have known relatives, applications for adoption can be made. Open Arms also has several houses in and around Blantyre where children who cannot be returned to

their homes and their relatives refuse to give permission for them to be adopted, live together (up to around 10 children per house) with foster parents. Open Arms has grown from a house with 9 babies to a well known and successful infant home with branches in different areas of Blantyre and Mangochi.

What has been achieved?

Our general opinion is that it was a worthwhile visit, and we were given some valuable information. However, as a group we will discuss exactly how we are to proceed from here in further meetings.

Daisy McCaulder



A Big Issue for Interact

SALnts Interact has begun to work in partnership with the Big Issue in Malawi.

The Big Issue is a magazine that is sold on the streets of Malawi and exists to offer the homeless and most vulnerable the opportunity to earn a legitimate income. The Big Issue is a bimonthly entertainment and current affairs magazine which vendors buy for K150 and sell to the public for K300 keeping K150 for themselves. The Big Issue believes in offering 'a hand up, not a hand out', and recognises that earning an income is the first step on the journey away from homelessness. The Big Issue's slogan is 'Working not Begging.'

Our Interact Club visited the offices of the Big Issue in Malawi and were so touched and impressed by the vision of the project that they arranged for Omega, the Editor in Chief and the staff

of the Big Issue to come into school assemblies to inform the student body about their work. Vendors can be spotted around Blantyre, as well as other urban areas in Malawi, and can be recognized by their brightly coloured bibs. Please support the Big Issue project by buying a copy of the magazine. The Interact Club has also invited vendors to sell the magazine of Brereton Drive in order to give parents and carers a chance to buy their copies when picking up their children. Please support this worthy project!

The Interact Club continues to go from strength to strength. We are building relationships with local organizations that work with the poorest and most vulnerable in Malawian society. We have plans to assist the Samaritans Trust in their work with street children, and on the slopes of Ndirande Mountain when we assist the Rotary Club of Blantyre with their 'Green and Clean' campaign in the township. In order to raise our awareness of 'green issues' in preparation for this we visited the PaNthunzi Centre for Permaculture and Sustainable Development. We spent an afternoon learning from Chris Walker about permaculture and sustainable environmental management.

This term the Interact Club has been most ably chaired by Daisy McCaulder and VP Barathan Inpabalan. Now that the Club is becoming an established part of SALnts we are going to open our doors to the younger members of the school community.

From January the Club will be open to all students from Year 7 to Year 13. Join up and be part of exciting and enjoyable projects that aim to put a smile on the faces of the most vulnerable (See Daisy, Barathan, Mr. Scarlett or Mrs. Samanyika for further information).

