



Newsletter #74

15th November, 2019

Dear Students, Parents, Teachers, Friends,

The School Term is moving on apace and as usual SAIntS students have been as busy outside the classroom as they have inside.

Last weekend the school field and swimming pool area were full of life with a keenly contested night gala, netball and football. Huge thanks to all the students who took part representing SAIntS with pride and to all the staff who generously gave their time to make the event a success.

Three weeks ago, the school welcomed a team of 4 School Principals working on behalf of COBIS to give advice on feedback during 3 intense days of lesson observations and meetings. The written feedback will be published in a few weeks. It was wonderful to hear from the team, such positive comments about SAIntS, in particular our strong pastoral care, extra-curricular programme and boarding facilities. We look forward to reading the report, acting on the advice and continuing to move the school forwards.

Yesterday the Year 13 headed off to the lake to undertake a number of charitable activities. The year group comprises a fantastic group of young adults and we look forward to hearing what they have achieved upon their return.

The Swimming Gala is on the horizon now (**Friday 29th November 07:00am**); we hope that many of the parents can come to support what is a true highlight in the school calendar.

K P Smith, Head Teacher

Calendar Dates

[See our website](#) or [download the App from the store \(Piota Schools\)](#)



Power for Good Training



On Thursday 24th October the newly appointed Power for Good Ambassadors from Years 8 to 13 met up outside of the main hall at 12:45, ready to make the short walk to Annie's Lodge for our training. Despite the raging heat the walk was enjoyable, with excitement and pride filling the air, we were all ready

and curious to see what was waiting for us at Annie's Lodge.

Upon arrival we were kindly greeted by the staff and directed to the cosy conference room; once we entered the room, we were welcomed by the sight of our smiling trainer the esteemed Mr Asher Jacobsberg, a UK student voice expert. Behind him was a mobile whiteboard and a message projected on the screen. He started off by introducing himself and showing us a picture of a burger that represented the layers of a person; the top bun symbolising the general information everyone knows about each other, height, age etc., the lettuce being the things we know after a few conversations, the cheese being something interesting and unique about a person, the meat being the bulk of a person's make up and lastly the bottom bun being the part of a person that ties everything up together. He used this to further describe himself, then in an activity of true self-reflection we had to do the same. We were then tested on how well we know one another when our papers were mixed and distributed amongst ourselves, until each person had a different sheet of paper. We took turns reading out only on the cheese description and guessing who the person the paper was describing; it was very interesting to find out who talked to their dogs in times of loneliness and the strange eating habits of our teachers and peers.

After loosening up and getting to know one another better we had a more serious activity where we wrote down as many forms and examples of bullying we could think of and stuck them up on a wall. We then looked at some of the sticky notes and discussed about those that we thought weren't really bullying, by

the end of the activity we all had a better understanding of what bullying truly was. After this we separated ourselves up into groups of four and were given the chance to further discuss and analyse the bullying problems within our school, we thought of solutions to the problems and how we could prevent them, some great ideas that we came up with include:

- Creating a welcoming committee for new students;
- Creating a teacher check list to ensure that teachers themselves aren't falling under the trap of bullying;
- Have an odd socks day where students and teachers are encouraged to wear mismatching socks and talk to someone they normally would not talk to;
- Have the Power for Good ambassadors take shifts at the peace garden during break/ lunch to promote anti-bullying and have miniature therapy sessions with all those willing to attend;

And lastly:

- Have team building days in each year group where compassion, empathy and bonding is encouraged.

After this we split into different groups to further expand on these ideas and to plan for the assembly the coming week where we would be officially appointed as Power for Good ambassadors.

At 3:30 we said our goodbyes and thank-yous to Mr Jacobsberg and embarked on the walk back to school feeling elated, enlightened and satisfied, ready to take

on our new responsibility of being a Power for Good Ambassador.

-Tadala B, Year 12 Power For Good Ambassador

Year 12 Geography trip to Zomba



On the 31st October the Year 12 Geography classes went on a trip to Zomba plateau with the purpose of evaluating the likeness between the Mulunguzi River and the Bradshaw Model. We started our journey at Mandala Falls by the Dam before beginning our hike up to Williams Falls. Along the way we identified river features, how they affected the rivers discharge and whether they were characteristics attributed to the upper, middle or lower course of the river. We also measured depth, using ranging poles and a metre stick, and velocity, using a flow meter and the ranging poles, at all seven of the points along the river. After splitting up to cover all the points the groups joined back

together at Williams Falls for lunch and a refreshing swim.

Later, we visited two more points along the upper course of the river, one being the source. Visiting the source was definitely the highlight of the trip; it was a very surreal yet amusing experience as we all clambered, crawled and sunk into what Mr Colliver could only describe as a “waterbed-like-marsh”.

As we were approaching the marsh it looked just like a normal field but as we began to walk in the direction of the source, we started falling all over the place. In between all the tufts of grass that created the deception, were gaps filled with water and mud: it was hilarious!

After much entertainment, we set off to the Sunbird Kuchawe Hotel where we ordered well-earned drinks and collated our data as well as calculating the discharge using average depth and velocity. From the data I collected I found that there were too many anomalies for the Mulunguzi to follow the pattern of the Bradshaw Model. However, I still learnt new measuring techniques, such as the one to find infiltration capacity, as well as gaining first-hand experience of the ideas that are usually limited to the classroom.

The journey home had a joyful atmosphere and was reflective of an amazing trip out!

- Amy D
