



## Newsletter #75

26<sup>th</sup> November, 2019

Dear Students, Parents, Friends,

The annual swimming gala is almost here. I thought I would rewind time 34 years to this week in 1985. Thank you to former student Nathan Baliles for this extract from his diaries.

THIS WEEK AT SAINT ANDREWS, 1985

(As taken from "The African Letters" – a collection of Malawian journals and correspondence.)

Nov 14th - Ndirande won the Diving Competition and also beat Soche 99-74 in Junior Boys Cricket. SAPS played Hillview in football, and sad to say, lost 2-1.

Nov 16th - Final Results from the Swimming Gala: Soche 647, Ndirande 601, Chiradzulu 579, Michiru 542.

Nov 19th - Miss Ellison (my French Teacher) hurt her leg and had to hop everywhere today. We had a free swim this afternoon at school."

The observant ones amongst you would notice that some things never change. I'm not referring to Michiru bringing up the rear, but I am referring to the languages teacher hopping around school! Sorry Mrs Mellin (our 21<sup>st</sup> century version of Miss Ellison.)

The image below shows the students lined up in front of the pool 34 year and 10 days ago.



If you would like to come along to watch please note that this year's gala is on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November from 07:30am. The students, staff and PTA would love to see you there. It would be more convenient for us if you can park in the lower Ndirande car park. This year's guest of honour is Mrs Caroline Behan who has done a tremendous amount for promoting swimming in the community.

### Lost Equipment

Please be aware that despite recent reminders students are still leaving their bags unguarded all over the school site. During House activities, a locked room is allocated for them to store their bags. Lockers are also available.

### Calendar Dates

See our website or download the App from the store (Piota Schools)



### SAIntS Carol Concert

The SAIntS Carol Concert is our largest music concert of the year. It is the culmination of all the rehearsals and preparation from the first term at SAIntS, with one third of the school performing on the evening.

All Year 7 and 8 students will be performing in the Mass Choir and singing a variety of songs with the SAIntS Jazz Band. There will be other groups performing as well, showcasing many of our talented musicians in a wide variety of musical styles.

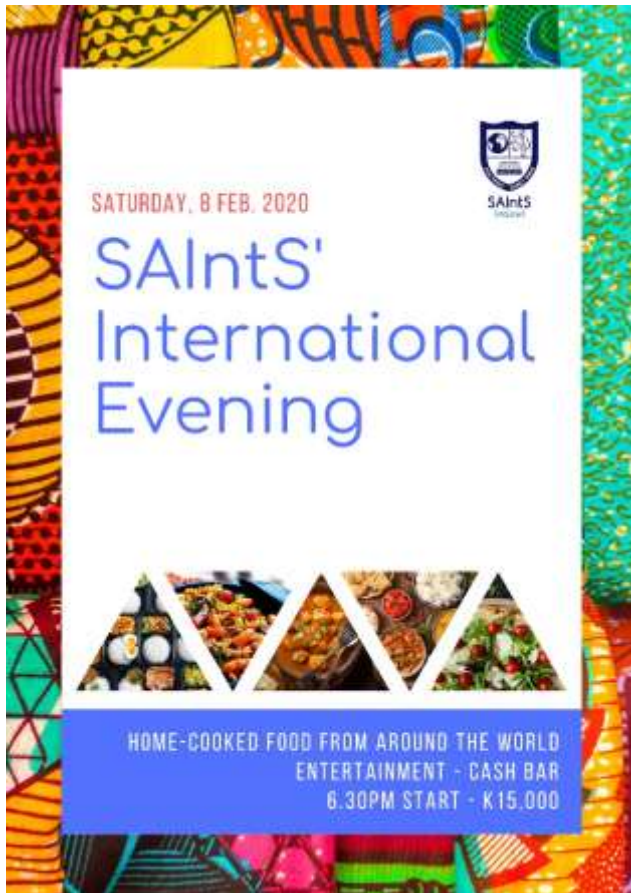
**Concert Date:** Wednesday, December 4th

**Concert Dress:** Black school trousers/skirt and black shoes, along with the school's colourful House shirt (red/yellow/green/blue)

**Arrival Time:** 5:45pm for vocal warm up and organisation for the evening

**Concert Start:** 6:30pm sharp.

**Concert End:** 8:30pm



## A Word About Lightning



Did you know that in Malawi, 6 people are killed by lightning per year per million of population? This equates to approximately 110 deaths *per year*. Lightning is a real and present danger to life at this time of the year in Malawi.

At SAlntS we take the safety of our students and staff extremely seriously. The School has a lightning detector and warning system.

This week, after a particularly dangerous storm which lasted an hour, we have reiterated to students the need to stay safe. Teachers will hold students in rooms and corridors if lightning is around and students *must* take the threat seriously. Students will be released only once the all clear is given.

Only yesterday we witnessed a number of students slowly walking towards PE in the midst of the storm. Several parts of the school were hit causing

damage to several electrical items. Thankfully nobody was hit, but we cannot rely on luck.

Stay safe and stay indoors when lightning is around.

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