



Newsletter #79

6th March 2020

Dear SAIntS family,

I was delighted to hear the exciting news that Mrs Samanyika shall be taking over the reins at SAIntS from September 2020. Having worked with her for 5 years, I can say with absolute confidence that there is nobody stronger to lead the school through the next phase of its life. As the School's first female Headteacher, she will be paving the way and shall go down in the history books.

Yours truly shall spend the next few months handing over to Mrs Samanyika. From September I shall be moving on to become Headteacher of a large comprehensive school in the South West of England.

This week has seen a huge number of events at School all linked to our Africa Rising Week. This was a dream that Mr Wilkinson imagined and over time, more teachers have joined in to create what was this year an extravaganza! Thank you to Mrs

Kananji, Mrs Meki, Miss Bufumo-Nyirenda and all the other staff and students who have made it a great success. I am not sure how they will follow this next year!

This week, some of our senior student received the results of their mid-year examinations, which for most were an opportunity to improve on their grades. I know from speaking to Mr Stubbs that there are some real success stories in these results and I am glad that the extra revision and effort has paid off.

Our focus is now turning to Matilda which take place in less than 2 weeks. I sincerely hope that you can all join us and see what talent the students have and what opportunities SAIntS gives them to shine.

Kieron Smith, Head Teacher

Key Dates

March

9 th	Year 11 Parents' Evening
18 th – 23 rd	ALAMAU Trip – Humanities
18 th – 22 nd	School Production Matilda
20 th – 22 nd	PE trip
24 th	Year 12 & 13 Parents Evening



Vote of thanks

On Friday, 14th February, Rush to the Goals, a Global Goals group, asked you to support our global goal of improving health and sanitation at Mwai Orphan Day Care Centre in Ndirande. Students were invited to wear a red accessory and donate 1,000MK. Thanks are extended to all who supported us. Through your generosity, we raised 70,000 Kwacha which will be used to buy **water storage drums, basins and hand washing equipment.**

A Return Visit from Dzaleka



One of our highlights of Africa Rising Week was the visit from our friends from Dzaleka Refugee camp. We became acquainted with them when our Y10s and Y12s visited the camp last year. They participated in various activities such as dancing, painting, and French speaking.



This week has benefited us in so many ways. We had song and dance performances from them during break time on Thursday as well as having a French speaking workshop for year 7 to year 13 and a football match in the afternoon. Students and teachers learnt lots about their cultures and what it was like to be a refugee. In Friday's assembly we were lucky enough to witness more of their fabulous talent and passion!

Half term lifesaving in Nkhata Bay



Chikale beach is one of the most popular tourist beaches in Nkhata Bay. Lifesaving South Africa in collaboration with Saint Andrews lifesaving Club joined hands in terms of drowning prevention at the lake by training Nkhatabay community lifeguards from the 18th- 23rd February. This was the first official open water lifesaving training in Malawi and it was led by Deon Woodley who was ably assisted by Lytton Mabeti. Eighteen Candidates participated and they were trained in swimming skills, CPR, rescues using torpedo buoys, spinal management, and various strangle hold rescues.



Lytton also introduced the new Water smart program to 80 children which was a great success.



Over the years, there have been a number of drownings in Nkhata Bay and we are assured that these numbers will be reduced after the work which Deon and Lytton did during this half term.

Year 7 Update

We have already just passed the half way mark and your children and are now fully fledged high school students!

The Year 7's are enjoying classes and are very comfortable and confident in their surroundings.

There are few notices, updates and pictures to share:

Life-skills:

I once again encourage parents to communicate with your child about the topics covered in Life skills. We have just completed a range of lessons including discrimination, communication, relationships and puberty. Looking ahead, we will be delving deeper into puberty issues and students will be split up into genders. Other topics we will be looking into, include; "your online identity" and staying safe on

the internet, friendships and learning about different learning needs.

Pictures from the Year 7 day trip:

Pictures of the challenging walk and beautiful scenery. The students learnt about what Fisherman's rest does to combat deforestation in this area.



Key dates:

Matilda performance: 19th, 20, 21st March- Tickets available at reception.

Year 7 visit to Phoenix: to watch the KS2 performance Tuesday the 17th of March- consent letters will be sent out soon.

House competition week: Week beginning 23rd March

House Points:

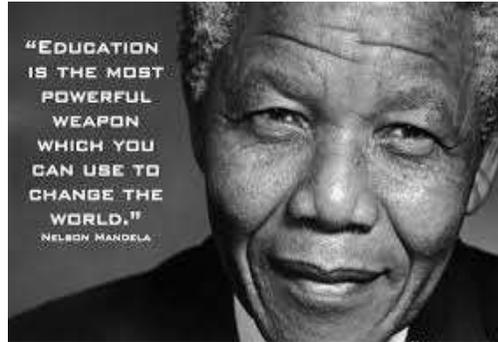
Please see below, the top 10 students with the highest net House points to date; Congratulations for all their hard work and achievement.

1. Yusuf L
2. Gabriella M
3. Sophia B
4. Grigorios I
5. Sage B
6. Elsie G
7. Uzomah I
8. Aamilah Y
9. William S
10. Hasse B



Wishing all the Year 7's all the best for the second half of the year!

Denise Patel, Head of Year 7



News From Sixth Form

Finally there was excitement and sigh of relief for our sixth formers upon coming back from the half term break.



Helen B – Delighted! (as always)

An incredible welcome for our senior students upon seeing the much-awaited laptops in the study room. Eight laptops in total have been installed. Indeed, this is really something their peers since 2017 have been requesting. It is a development that has helped ease students' access to laptops/computers challenges in the Sixth Form.

The 6th Form has become a 'one stop centre' as almost everything can be done here with the availability of the Career Guidance Counsellor, it means students have a well-qualified teacher to speak to when it comes to making career choices, so too students get assistance when making university applications.

SAIntS Malawi Sixth Form is very unique in a sense that students are able to get everything within the centre.

Other Sixth Form improvements:

In the beginning of 1st Term last year, study room and common room were both mounted with wall fans to provide a much cooler environment during hot temperatures. Some of the activities Sixth Formers are currently doing is the recycling of papers and bottles. A special bin is placed in the common room for recycling bottles, thanks to Lemorah B.

In the coming months, the sixth form will undergo various renovations i.e. re-painting inside walls and making other improvements.

Message from the Head of Boarding

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Sometimes as Parents and Guardians we wonder if too much screen time will impede our boarders' cognitive development. In as much as we at SAIntS believe in progress and we are much aware that our students use their phones for different reasons as it improves motivation and engagement while changing how learners fill knowledge and skill gaps.

Recently in Boarding we have introduced a reduction in screen time for our boarders for various reasons such as:

- Mobile phones are a distraction in their study time
- Addiction to social media and being vulnerable to cyberbullying
- Lost productivity in class due to sleeping late and not getting enough rest in their respective rooms.

Most importantly, in Boarding, we advocate for real human interaction, being social creatures we strongly believe that for our SAIntS students to thrive in Boarding and in their studies, they need to have real time interactions with peers and mobile phones can be a huge hindrance.

What's our immediate strategy?

The Boarding management agreed that boarders from year 7 to year 10 should surrender their phones on Sunday evening and will get them back

on Friday afternoon after school hours. In this manner, students have more time to grow in their social skills and establish good interaction skills with their peers and focus better on their studies.

Pocket Money

The Boarding department would like to remind our Parents and Guardians to encourage our boarders to bank their money for safe keeping with the boarding office, as this will eliminate some chances of having their money missing within the two boarding houses.

Boarding Contacts

Parents must contact Head of Boarding or Boarding Supervisors for any matters related to boarding either by phone or by email using the contact details highlighted below: info@saints.mw or [Boarding Hotlines](#).

[\(+265\)888 591 581/888 591 571](tel:+265888591581).

Lastly, the Boarding management would like to thank you our Parents and Guardians for the continuous support you render to the Boarding department.

COVID-19 Coronavirus

To add to the message sent out to parents of Phoenix and SAIPS students:

Coronavirus has not yet been recorded in Malawi, but this week the first confirmed case in sub-Saharan Africa was recorded and we, as a school, are putting into place some simple measures that can protect you and your children from the spread of germs.

At school we will be repeating the "Catch it, Bin it, Kill it" slogan. This refers to:

- Catch it (in a tissue)
- Bin it (throw the tissue away)
- Kill it (wash your hands)

We have provided each class with hand sanitiser so that children can make sure that they are keeping as "germ free" as possible. However, current advice is that the most effective way of killing this particular virus is the use of hot water and soap and we shall be encouraging students to regularly wash their hands.

In addition to these simple measures we would also ask that if your child is suffering from a severe cold or flu-like symptoms that you keep them at home. If it persists or gets worse we would advise that you seek medical advice from your local health provider. Advice is that you should *not* present suspected cases of COVID-19 to hospitals or clinics, but you should contact a doctor by phone.