



SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

Issue No: 276

Friday 16th October 2015

HEAD OF SECONDARY'S MESSAGE

Supporting your child at secondary school

(This article is taken from the BBC website and contains some really good advice for secondary parents, particularly parents of Key Stage 3 children.)

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The beginning and end of the school day

The beginning of the school day can be a rush for everyone. Your child will need to be far more organized at secondary school than he or she was at primary school. Establishing a routine in the morning and evening will help the day start smoothly and with minimum stress.

Tips for a positive start to the school day:

- encourage your child to pack their school bag and lay out their uniform before going to bed each evening
- try to make sure your child eats breakfast - this provides essential energy and will help him or her perform better at school
- allow plenty of time for your child to get to school - build extra time into your morning routine so that if there are transport or other problems he or she won't be late for registration
- check each evening for letters home or permission forms or homework diaries to sign as this will help avoid early morning panic and items being forgotten

Helping with homework

Your child will need to work more independently at secondary school than at primary school. But your interest and input will still be important and will help your child to do well.

Look for opportunities to talk to your child about schoolwork - children enjoy sharing what they are learning. Try to find topics you're both interested in so it's more of a conversation than an interrogation.

Ask your child if there's anything you can do to help with homework. Discuss the organisation of the work. If your child has several assignments due in on the same day, suggest they space the work out rather than leave it all until the night before.

Other ways to support your child's learning

You may not be reading with your child as you did at primary school but you can still support good reading habits. Talk to your child about the books you're both reading. Ask what books your child would like for birthday and Christmas presents. Go to the library together - if your child is stuck for a new author, ask the librarian for guidance or look online at book reviews.

Keeping up-to-date with the news helps with schoolwork. Try to encourage your child to read a newspaper at least once or twice a week. Find news stories that connect to lesson topics. If your child is researching a subject, suggest the online archives of a good newspaper or the BBC website.

If you're planning a day out, visit a museum or gallery that will tie in with work your child is doing in subjects such as Art, English, History, Geography or Science - this can be a fun way to add depth and interest to your child's learning.

Have a great holiday!

Regards

Terry Garbett,
Secondary Head.

UP COMING EVENTS

19-25th Oct	Half Term
27th Oct	Year 9 Options Evening
28th Oct	Parent Teacher Meetings Y7, Y10, DP1 & DP2
31st Oct	ISSAK Fixtures
2nd Nov	House Shirt Day
4th Nov	Parent /Teacher Meeting Y8, Y9 & Y11
9th-13th Nov	Literacy Week
11th Nov	Poetry Evening
14th Nov	ISSAK Season 1 Finals @ KISU
16th Nov	ISSAK Season 2 Girls Trials
17th Nov	ISSAK Season 2 Boys Trials
18th Nov	ISSAK Girls Trials
20th Nov	Club A ends; ISSAK squads announced
21st Nov	2nd tracking Reports go home; IWO Bazaar

I am delighted to be able to report that, after a difficult start to the academic year on the staffing front, I expect the school to be fully staffed with high quality professionals very soon. Ms. Pamela Swojanovski joined our PE department in the last couple of weeks and has already made a strong impression on both students and colleagues alike. Dr. Tommy Smith (Phd) has agreed to join our Science department. He is currently working at the International School of Brussels but will be here in time for the start of the next half-term on October 26th. Finally, Mr. Chris Wintle has accepted an offer to join our Maths department. Chris was working at a good international school in Bangkok and is a former Head of Department. He will be with us for the week commencing November 2nd. We are also very grateful to Dr. Julia Kigozi for the work she has been doing to support our IB Maths students in the short term. Likewise, I want to thank all of our teachers for the way in which they have pitched in to cover these gaps in the course of the last half-term; some have taken on significant numbers of additional lessons each week in order to try to minimise the impact of these staffing gaps on our students.



Ms. Pamela Swojanovski

I would also like to thank parents and students for their patience. These gaps in our staffing have been most unfortunate; they occurred at very short notice (in two cases, after the start of the academic year) and were entirely beyond our control. It is neither a quick nor an easy process to find and appoint high quality international teachers after the beginning of an academic year as, in general, they are expected to give a minimum of one term's notice to their schools if they wish to move on somewhere else. However, we have resolved the situation absolutely as quickly as we could have, and sparing no expense, by appointing three international teachers whom we are confident are of the quality that our students deserve. We can now look forward to the year ahead with real confidence and optimism.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank those of you who have made me feel so welcome since I joined the school and wish you all a restful half-term and safe travel if you are headed off somewhere.

Regards

Steve Lang,

School Director.



Assembly Performances

In our assembly this week, Louis performed a trombone solo playing "O When The Saints Go Marching In". He performed so well and we congratulate him upon an enjoyable first assembly performance.

Individual Private Music Lessons

KISU runs a Private Music Lessons program for all age-groups where students seeking to improve their playing or singing ability have the option of taking individual private lessons for an additional fee. Approximately 10 professional musicians from around Kampala offer intensive weekly instruction

in voice, keyboard, wind, string, and percussion instruments. Students may study voice, piano, classical guitar, electric guitar, bass guitar, modern drums, African drums, cornet, recorder, violin, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet and African Xylophone. Registration is in progress now and forms can be obtained from the Secondary or Primary office or from the reception area. The cost per lesson is UGSHS 35,000 and a minimum of 10 lessons is required at registration each term. All payments must be made in advance.

Music Recitals

KISU offers a variety of performing opportunities to students as a way of celebrating their musical achievements on their chosen instruments. Two recitals are organized every year in December and in May. More information on that will come your way in due course.

Dr. Benon Kigozi, Head of Music



Surface book



2 weeks ago Microsoft were in the news for very good reasons. They were unveiling the Surface Book.

The new 13.5-inch Surface Book is the ultimate laptop. The full punch

of a high performance laptop with unprecedented versatility of a tablet. This is the future of laptop computing.

Surface Book is the first of its kind. This innovative and stunningly crafted laptop is a creative powerhouse, designed to adapt to the way you work – with touch, a Pen, or a mouse.

Surface Book is a powerful laptop with a full sized, backlit keyboard for fast and natural typing.

The 13.5" Pixel Sense™ display detaches easily from the keyboard to become a thin, light tablet that works perfectly with One-Note and Surface Pen.

One is able to turn the screen around and reattach it to use Surface Book like a creative canvas. By reconnecting it to the keyboard, you unlock its full creative power in a pen first mode. This laptop is built with purpose to perform. Surface Book is built to be a creative workhorse. Combining a 6th Gen Intel® Core™ i5 or i7 processor with up to 16GB of memory and an optional discrete graphics chip. With an optional discrete graphics chip, Surface Book is built for even the most intensive creative tasks like photo and video editing.

The Surface Book holds true to its tablet roots in allowing you to detach the screen itself from the keyboard completely or flip it around to use the keyboard like a stand (see the photo above). The Surface Book also works with touch input and comes packaged with a stylus like previous Surfaces have.

You'll also find 2 USB ports and a Micro SD slot, and a Mini Display Port that allows you to connect to a traditional desktop monitor. All storage drives in the Surface Book are solid-state based, meaning they use flash memory for storage. This is a better option as SSD drives can access data faster than traditional hard drives, and sizes of up to 1TB will be offered.

If you're in the market for a higher end laptop, Microsoft's Surface Book is certainly a worthwhile contender. Its features and specs stack up pretty nicely against the Mac Book Pro, which seems to be the type of laptop buyer Microsoft's targeting. At most of the price points, they're fairly close to the Mac Book Pro in terms of specifications.

With these additional features comes a premium price: The cheapest configuration sets you back \$1,499 and right now it is only available on pre-order meaning that even if you ordered it now, you will have to wait to get it and honestly given all the reviews and all the numbers I have been seeing, I am willing to wait but am I willing to spend that much?

Robert Buga,

Head of IT.

Clubs

We are beginning to prepare for club session B that will run from **Friday, November 30th** through to **Saturday, March 5th**. If you would like to offer a club in this session please contact myself at sportsdirector@kisu.com or by phone at 0752 711 878.

Important Dates:

- Club A finish: **Saturday, November 21st**
- Club B lists and sign-up forms will no longer be emailed. They will be available on the school website from **Wednesday, November 18th**.
- Club B registration opens on **Monday, November 23rd** at **9:00 a.m.**
- Club B registration closes **Thursday, November 26th** at **9:00 a.m.**
- Clubs will begin on **Monday, November 30th** for two weeks
- Clubs will not run **December 14th-16th** and will resume **Tuesday, January 5th 2016**
- Club B finishes **Saturday, March 5th, 2016**

We always appreciate your input and feedback to further improve the programs and services we offer. If you wish to share your input, please do not hesitate to contact me.

ISSAK

Despite the heavy downpour, the U20 boys and girls football teams took on ISU on Tuesday. The wet conditions certainly changed the game, serving as another challenge to our players. The boys at ISU adapted well and managed to play their game, beating ISU 2-1, Amu scoring the first goal and Duval scoring the game winner!

At home, despite the 1-0 lead held by ISU, our girls played a strong first half, keeping the ball in ISU's end and creating a few scoring opportunities. Caterina played a solid game in goal, making several huge saves to keep ISU's score down to 2. The final score was 2-0.

SOME PHOTOS OF ISSAK



Regards

Racquel Theberge,
Director of Sport.

Dear All

Well, with the primary students having been on Outdoor Ed trips this past week – things have been a little quieter around the primary school. I have already heard about some of the wonderful experiences from those children who left on Monday and returned on Tuesday/Wednesday, albeit a little wet/dirty...they had lots & lots of fun...just a little more washing for over the half-term break.

Our next PTA event is our HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS COSTUME KIDS MOVIE NIGHT, on Friday 30th October 2015, so remember, if you don't already have your Halloween fancy dress costume, you can arrange to get one over the half-term break. Movie and change of venue to be confirmed soon, posters advertising this event will be displayed in due course.

Enjoy your half-term break and see you all on Monday 26th October for the last half of the first term.

Kind regards

Rose Bowmaker,
PTA Chair.



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We're on the Web!

www.kisu.com

Useful Websites

If you would like more details about the curriculum your child is following or exams your child will be sitting you can check the websites below.

Cambridge International Exams

<http://cie.org.uk>

National Curriculum

<http://curriculum.qca.org.uk>

International Baccalaureate (IB)

<http://www.ibo.org>

KISU Contacts:

Front Office	0752 711 886
Sec . Office	0752 711 789
Primary Office	0752 711 908
Admissions	0752 711 882
Office Manager	0752 711 909
Marketing Dept	0752 711 891
Bursar's Office	0752 711 893
Career guide	0752 711 679