



SECONDARY NEWSLETTER

Issue No: 267

Friday 12th June 2015

HEAD OF SECONDARY'S MESSAGE

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

15th June	Leavers Assembly
18th June	Secondary Music Night
19th June	Academic Awards Assembly , End of Year Reports go home and School Finishes at noon.

The High Commission of India
in Uganda Invites you to
International Day of Yoga

ishya
International Day of Yoga
21st June 2015

YOGA

A FREE WORKSHOP
OPEN TO ALL

TOOLS FOR TRANSFORMATION

21ST JUNE 2015

Starting 11am prompt – no need to book, just turn up!

Kampala International School Uganda (KISU)
Plot 447 Old Kira Road, Bukoto
Kampala, Uganda.

Introducing yoga and imparting simple practices designed to help you cut through the struggle and walk through life with ease. Come and find out more about yoga!

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www.yogayoga.org



Dear Secondary Parents and Students,

This is the last but one Newsletter of the year. Even though we are only one week away from the end of the year KISU is still a hive of activity. In the final week of term our DP1 students will be going over assessments that have to be worked on over the 'holiday', our Year 10 students will be given areas to look at in preparation for next year, Key Stage 3 will have 3 House Drama competition, there is a music performance, we will have our leavers assembly on Monday and on Friday our Academic Awards assembly. On top of all this the review of our end of year examinations and the preparation of reports will continue.

In International Schools one becomes accustomed to saying goodbye and this week-end we say goodbye to Mrs. Klara Moussay who is leaving us a little early to go on maternity leave. Klara has been at KISU as Head of Modern Foreign Languages for 3 years and has overseen the department develop into a well organized and highly effective team. Her department teaches 1st and 2nd Language French throughout Primary and Secondary and Spanish as part of the IB Diploma. She will be returning to the Czech Republic with her husband for the birth of their first child in August. We all wish her and her family the very best of luck for the future.

I would like to congratulate our Key Stage 3 students on the very mature review of the examination period that they have just completed. As a result of their input the following changes will be implemented next year:

1. The timing of break will be altered so that the periods before break and before lunch have equal revision times.
2. The length of break will be increased slightly to enable all students to eat, visit their locker, move around etc.
3. The length of examination papers will be reviewed so that they are neither too long nor too short.

The behaviour of students in Key Stage 3, in fact all students but the younger ones in particular, was excellent during the examination period and they should be congratulated.

As students and teachers continue to work hard at reviewing last week's examinations and Year 10 and IB Diploma teachers look forward to the final year of these examination courses. I am a little disappointed that our average attendance has dropped. This has been particularly apparent in our more senior years. It is really important that students are able to review their papers and learn from their mistakes. It is also noticeable that a number of our weaker students have decided to stay at home – I presume supported by their parents. I can understand that they may not want, what they see as, poor results made public but absenting themselves from school only makes being successful even more difficult.

Please return all library books as soon as possible.

**Terry Garbett,
Secondary Head**

As a child I was always annoyed by old people (ie those over about 30) who kept reminiscing about things in their past. They would talk about things that happened long before my time and to which I had no link. It was boring.

I am sometimes reminded of this whenever I see a group of people who are from the same culture sitting with one or two people from other cultures. Most of the group are rolling around laughing at some cultural reminiscence and 2 people sit there looking blankly at each other. If we are not careful by reminiscing, we can accidentally exclude people from the fun.

Old people (as in the over 30 year olds) like to make sure that the youth of today can enjoy what we used to and this means that films, tv shows and songs get remade. In 90% of cases I think the new version is awful. Examples include *The Italian Job* (1969), one of my favourite films and the dreadful remake from 2003. A great black and white film *The Flight of the Phoenix* (1965) was fantastic, whereas the 2004 remake is pitiful. I grew up utterly convinced that all VW Beetles were living things thanks to the *Herbie* films from the 1960s; *Herbie Reloaded* never managed to have the same effect. And so the list goes on.

I used to think that this meant every remake was awful. After all, how many times do we as grownups cringe as some warbling reality TV star destroys a classic song that we treasure from our youth?

Then I heard the song *Fields of Gold* sung by Eva Cassidy. It's not often that a song makes the hairs stand up on the back of my neck, but this did. It was absolutely divine and I was very disappointed when I later heard Sting's version, even though he wrote it in the first place.

It was only a few months ago that I finally thought I'd worked it out.

My idea was that people grow to love the first version of whatever it is that they see or hear, no matter whether it's the original or not. Certainly when I have spoken to young people about *The Italian Job*, they all seem to prefer the modern version, but on further enquiry they have all said that they saw it first and only saw the original sometime later.

So when the TV show *Thunderbirds* was remade last year, I was expecting young people to say how great it was, whilst I would moan about how it wasn't a patch on the original. I was wrong. I've not met anyone who likes the new CGI version, but show a child the original and they are almost always hooked. So that's another of my theories blown.

I was somewhat apprehensive when I heard that one of my favourite 5 minute TV shows was being remade. There used to be a slot at 5.55pm, just before the 6 o' clock news, when a children's programme would be shown. This show would be watched by adults and children together and there were many of them such as *The Magic Roundabout*, *Rhubarb and Custard*, *Captain Pugwash* and my favourite of all.....

When I was 4 years old, some strange pink knitted sock-like things appeared on the screen. I didn't know they were pink at the time though, as the TV was black and white in those days. These creatures lived on the moon and ate soup made of string that was collected from a hole in the ground, overseen by a dragon. There was a mechanical chicken and trees that played music. I was absolutely captivated by it and *The Clangers* became unmissable.

The clangers communicated in a language of whistles and one of my most

treasured possessions back in the UK is a pink Clanger given to me by a Welsh French teacher in Kenya (!). If you squeeze it (the Clanger, not the teacher), it whistles a specific line from the start of an episode. Folk law says that the show was scripted and this specific line is the Clanger swearing at a broken mechanical door. It always makes me smile.

So last week was the first episode of a new *Clangers* series and I was expecting the worst; some kind of CGI extravaganza with clever special effects and a complicated sound track that would ruin everything.

Oh joy of joys. I have only seen a trailer, but it looks almost the same. They are still knitted pink things, the planet looks the same and the soup dragon sounds identical to the one 46 years ago. The man doing the narration is Michael Palin; not quite as good as the original chap, but good nevertheless.

If you are after child-friendly escapism for 3 to 6 year olds (or 49 year old school directors) I can highly recommend it. Last night at 2.30am I couldn't sleep and so I watched a few of the original episodes on my phone. I could have been 4 or 5 again; it was great.

I guess the litmus test is whether 3 to 6 year olds take to the new version; only time will tell. In my searching on YouTube, I was surprised to find that an American version is planned with William Shatner as the voice-over man. *Clangers* as narrated by Captain James T. Kirk of the starship Enterprise; brilliant.

For anyone over the age of about 10, reminiscence is something we all do. I often hear children telling of past events and howling with laughter at what sounds utterly dull to me. I guess you had to be there.

As our school year draws to a close, many of us are reminiscing about the past few years, as we perhaps try to avoid thinking about moving on to new places. Reminiscing with friends is a way to bond and reaffirm friendships that could last a lifetime. The great thing about reminiscing is that remembering bad things is often quite amusing too and we can look on the funny side of something that at the time may not have been greeted with a smile. Such is the positivity of human nature.

So if you are moving on, or are the friend of someone who is about to move, remember to have a good old laugh about all the silly things that you've done together over the years. This way you remind yourself of great times that should be treasured.

Rest assured that wherever you end up, in a few years time you'll be reminiscing about what is currently the future and it will bring a smile to your face.

I apologise if my ramblings this week are a bit British in nature. Most people reading this will not have heard of the *Clangers*, or *Rhubarb and Custard* and *Captain Pugwash* may sound more like a drain cleaner than a much loved children's TV programme. But almost all of us have internet, so if you are wide awake at 2.30am and needing something short and silly to help you drift off....get out your smart phone and have a giggle. You never know, as it will be the first time you have seen them, you may like them. There again, maybe not!

INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY. SUNDAY 21ST JUNE 2015

The High Commission of India in Uganda will be hosting the International Day of Yoga at KISU on 21st June, 11am prompt, in the auditorium. The day is open to all as an introduction to yoga led by Isha Foundation (of which Sadhguru is the founder). There will be brief but profound explanations of yoga, simple yoga practices and meditations. No experience of yoga nor flexibility is necessary. An opportunity not to be missed for the curious who know nothing about yoga and the seasoned practitioner alike. Entry is FREE.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA BY SADHGURU JAGGI VASUDEV

(Yogi, Mystic, Humanitarian and founder of Isha Foundation)

The United Nations has declared that June 21st will be celebrated every year as International Yoga Day.

Yoga is the exploration of the very mechanics of life. It predates all religion and opened the possibility of raising a human being beyond limitations set by nature, if willing to strive.

International Yoga Day is Crucial

The word "yoga" literally means union. Yoga does not mean twisting of the body, tying limbs into knots, holding your breath or doing some other circus acts. The word "yoga" means, in one's experience, everything has become one. It is a system of raising human ability to perceive, to enhance individual human beings to realise their ultimate nature. Yoga is the most profound exploration of the very mechanics of life.

International Yoga Day is coming at a crucial time. The yogic science is of significance now, like never before. Today we have tremendous tools of science and technology at our disposal, enough to make or break the world. It is very important that we have an inner sense and awareness of life, that we experience every other being as a part of ourselves. Otherwise, our pursuit of wellbeing will destroy all.

If a certain population in the world experiences this, if a certain percentage of the world truly becomes meditative, the quality of the world will change. Particularly if the leadership in the world experiences the unity or the yoga of life, there will be a dramatic change in the way the world will function. For all the problems of humanity, the solution is in enlarging one's perception of life, from individuality to universality.

The declaration of International Yoga Day is a significant step in this direction, and can have a ripple-effect across the planet. Acknowledging yoga in this way will be immensely beneficial, particularly for the youth. Nowadays, a lot of young people are taking to yoga because it is usually the youth in the world who have a passion for truth. Youth is humanity in the making. Because they are in the making, they can shape themselves in whichever manner they want. If only youth are taught to handle themselves with a little more consciousness, then they are a great possibility. Otherwise, youth can be very compulsive.

PTA NEWS

Dear Parents & Students

With the last week approaching – here are a few dates to diarise and events to attend -

Upcoming events and dates to diarise:-

Monday 15th – Secondary Leavers Assembly

Tuesday 16th – Secondary Music Night

Wednesday 17th – Early Years & KS1 Awards

Thursday 18th June – KS2 Awards

Friday 19th – Final Assembly

School Closes on Friday 19th June at 12:00/noon, please ensure that you are here on time to collect your children.

Regarding school photographs – there are still at least 50% of the school photographs outstanding and we are fully aware as to who has and has not yet received their photographs. We totally understand your frustration and disappointment in not having received the photographs yet, but please be reassured that we are doing our level best to have all outstanding photographs by the end of this week. We have spoken to the photographer and we should receive all outstanding photographs by this Friday 12th June, distributing them to all your children's teachers next week.

Enjoy your weekend and the last week of term 3 and the school academic year 2014/2015 next week.

Many thanks

Kind regards

Rose Bowmaker

PTA Chair

MUSIC DYNAMICS

Secondary Music Production

The secondary music production is scheduled to take place on Thursday 18 June 2015 starting at 6.30PM. The music production will feature all students that take music in secondary school performing both African and Western music in small ensembles and larger groups. All performers should be at the performance venue not later than 6PM dressed in black and white or just black or white.

The purpose for this communication is to invite you to the KISU Secondary Music Night and to prepare your child to attend and perform in the concert.

Dr. Benon Kigozi, Head of Music

Kampala International School
Uganda
P O Box 34249

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>

HOUSE POINTS

BWINDI	105
SEMLIKI	100
OTUKEI	138
KIBALE	140

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

SPORTS NEWS

Primary & Secondary Outdoor Education!

Dear Parents/Guardians,

You can expect some information regarding your child's outdoor ed. trip for next academic year via email and in hard copy on Wednesday, June 16th. Primary Outdoor Education will run during the week of October 12th-16th and Secondary trips will run November 23rd-27th. We encourage you to consider the packing list included in the information you are provided in the event you may need to collect some items over the holidays. Finally, please remember outdoor education trips are directly linked to the curriculum and thus assessment of your child's progress in these areas. They are rich and authentic learning experiences and a great means for teachers to understand your child better! I know that staff and students are already looking forward to these weeks!

Sincerely,

Racquel Theberge

