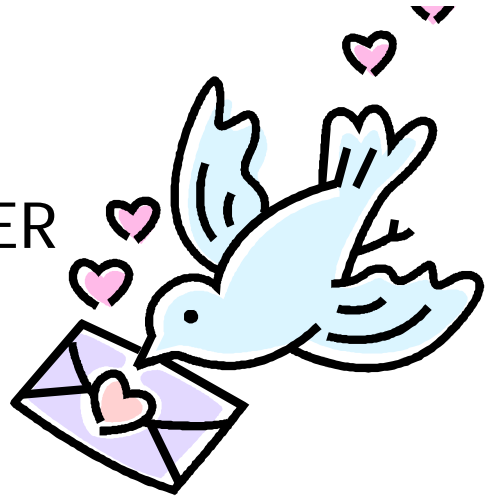




# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER



DATE: 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER '07

DEAR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS,

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:-

## Club News

Last week the tag rugby coach gave us about 2 hours notice that he would not attend the club even though he knew the night before. He was advised that we would not employ him further. We are looking for someone to take up tag rugby. Until we have a replacement, tag rugby is postponed. From next Tuesday Ms. Catherine Hallam will be taking the horse riding club. Next week there are two secondary outdoor ed. trips which means that drama, beginners and intermediate computers, senior choir, reading, girls football, and cheerleading are cancelled for next week beginning 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

## Additional KG Staff

The KG have acquired a new teaching assistant, Margaret who will be working with Lydia Kiwanuka. She has a teaching degree and a lot of experience working with early years.

## New Librarian

A new Librarian, Florence Nabbumba has joined us. Her particular task over the next 18 months is to introduce up to date software for the school libraries and a library bar coding system both of which she has 7 years experience of working with, and to increase the books considerably and quickly for the new secondary library.

## Driver

An additional driver has started which will alleviate some transport times. This Saturday Rose will call all parents involved with adjustments to times.

## Car Pools

Transport is always a big inconvenience to parents and students. The only way of alleviating the inconvenience is by reducing traveling time. This can be done by opening more routes and this is being reviewed for January (no promise though). Another way is to introduce car pools.

For those of you not familiar with the concept, it cuts down traveling time which might be spent on the bus and cuts down inconvenience for parents who might normally have to drive their child twice a day. This is done because it deals with a small number of children in the same area and the driver/parent does not do it everyday. It is convenient, saves traveling time, fuel bills and lessens traffic problems entering school.

Parents living in the same area arrange a schedule. If, for example, there are three families, concerned parents can take particular times of the week or choose to take all the driving one week in three. The children are picked up outside their accommodation.

The car pool can involve as many children as any one of the vehicles involved can take. If you are interested in the possibility of joining a car pool please inform Rose in the Office.

## Uniform

Only the order for Secondary uniform polo shirts is still not complete. A couple of alternative manufacturers let us down and apparently the original one will now complete the job! You will be kept informed of progress.

The students are to be commended not only for trying very hard to keep in uniform but taking some pride in their appearance. Those of us who show people around school are rewarded by good manners, thoughtful greetings and smartly dressed students. A few students still forget to bring PE kit or swimming kit or towels – the one or two are generally secondary students - perhaps because they are at the age when mum stops getting things ready for them –or perhaps because they are just at that age! Whatever the reason they need strategies to regularly follow at a certain time after homework or meal time –to check the day and their timetable and prepare their bags including PE gear at that set time of night before bed so it is ready before the morning rush.

## 7<sup>th</sup> January For In- service Training (INSET)

### January 8<sup>th</sup> School Will Resume

Your Calendar shows that we should return on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January at the beginning of second term. With your indulgence we would like to resume with students on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January. This will give the teachers an additional one day for in - service training.

This year INSET has been essential due to many factors including incoming new personnel, health and safety training requirements, IB Diploma accreditation visit (set for next term) and a move for secondary occasioning a readjustment in primary. Further, the school is accredited by the Council of International Schools and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. It was accredited five years ago, this November and is therefore due a five year re-accreditation visit focusing on all aspects of the school.

The staff have already spent two weeks before the start of school in orientation preparation and INSET. They spent the Saturday morning of 29<sup>th</sup> September on INSET. They are scheduled to spend the first Monday after CHOGM (26<sup>th</sup> November) on INSET and also Saturday morning 12<sup>th</sup> January. In fact 7<sup>th</sup> January will be the first real school's day we have used. A reminder will be sent to you at the end of this term.

### Class Parents Still Required

We currently require CPRs for the following Classes: KG 1/2, KG 3K, 3S, 4S, and 6M. CPRs are extremely important parts of our school community and we ask any parents interested to please speak with the Class teacher. The secondary have no class parents at present. Ms. Meyer would like to say that we need them at least for the emergency phone chain. For instance – when we heard about Id we were not able to inform everyone quickly – with parent reps this can be done – the teacher contacts the parent rep. who may then call three parents who in their turn call three and so on until the whole class has been contacted. Please see your class or form teacher soon and offer your services at least to establish our emergency phone chain.

### Ski Trip

Thanks to all parents who attended our Ski Trip meeting on Thursday. Our numbers have reached the maximum and will therefore not be accepting any more deposits.

### Tragic Accident

I was extremely saddened as were my colleagues when we heard of the tragic accident which took the life of one of our parents Mr. Abubakar, a young man of 29 with a two year old daughter and 9 month old son. I did not know him personally, though I am told he was a kind and friendly young father who took delight in bringing his two year old daughter Zaria to KG everyday. The family returned to Pakistan before we could say anything as a school community. I don't really know what can be said. Words are often hesitant and clumsy at such times and they are really never enough. Let us wish life brings Zaria and her brother and mum enough favour and joy to assist, support and comfort them now and in the future against their traumatic loss.



Graham Pheby  
Principal