



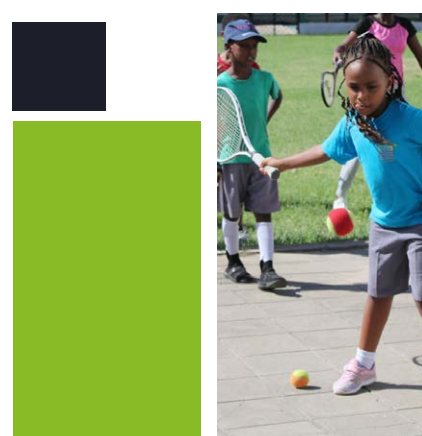
THE TORCH

2024 / 2025
ACADEMIC YEAR

OUR ANNUAL SCHOOL MAGAZINE SHINING LIGHT ON OUR ACADEMIC YEAR



**GROW.
EXPLORE.
DISCOVER.**



Cambridge Assessment
International Education



#TheArts

'Still Life Elegance' Pencil Drawing by Caleb

HEAD OF SCHOOL

LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD



As we approach the end of another remarkable year at MM Shah and MV Shah Academy, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the vibrant learning community we continue to build together. From the joyful first steps of our youngest learners in the IEYC, where play and discovery ignite curiosity, to the exciting global themes explored through our IPC, and the rigorous yet inspiring challenges of the Cambridge curriculum, our classrooms have been alive with creativity, laughter, and discovery.

Together, these rich learning experiences—spanning from our curious 2-year-olds to our confident Year 10 students—have nurtured not only academic growth but also joy, reflecting our shared commitment to excellence and holistic education.

Our Book Week and World Book Day served as inspiring reminders of the power of storytelling and literacy, while events like the Science fair, cultural day, math day, and Swahili day brought learning to life in bold, colourful, and interactive ways. These themed days not only celebrated academic disciplines but also honoured our students' cultural roots and diverse talents.

Our students displayed remarkable talent and resilience through numerous tournaments and competitions, achieving great success in areas such as sports, debates, and Model United Nations (MUN). Their accomplishments are a testament to hard work, teamwork, and the steadfast support of our dedicated staff and families.

Student-led assemblies and our lively club programme further enriched the school experience and fostered confidence, collaboration, and creativity. The class-led assemblies were especially heartwarming, with learners taking the lead to inspire and educate their peers with poise and purpose.

As we draw this chapter to a close, we celebrate not only the achievements but also the strong relationships and lasting memories created along the way. To our parents, thank you for your partnership. To our dedicated teachers and staff, thank you for your relentless commitment. And to our wonderful students—you have made this year truly unforgettable.

Here's to more adventures, discoveries, and successes in the new academic year.

Warm regards,
Lucy Mwaniki

EDITORIAL

WEAVING OUR STORY TOGETHER

Every edition of our school magazine is more than a collection of articles and photographs—it is a tapestry of voices, experiences, and dreams. This year has been no exception. From classrooms alive with curiosity to fields and stages echoing with talent, the spirit of MM Shah and MV Shah Academy has flourished in ways that words alone can hardly capture.

What stands out most is not just the achievements, but the resilience, creativity, and collaboration that define our community. Whether through groundbreaking academic projects, artistic brilliance, athletic victories, or the simple acts of kindness that happen quietly every day, our students have shown us what it means to lead with passion and heart.

This magazine is dedicated to them—the dreamers, the doers, the changemakers of tomorrow. It is also a tribute to the teachers, staff, and families whose encouragement and belief light the path forward.

As we turn these pages, may we be reminded that our story is still being written, and the best chapters are yet to come. Here's to carrying our energy, our courage, and our shared vision into the future with pride.

Warm regards,

Clara Wali
Chief Editor
Head of English Department



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KISWAHILI DAY

CELEBRATING OUR NATIONAL LANGUAGE

This year marked a special milestone at our school with the inaugural Kiswahili Day, a vibrant celebration of Kenya's national language and cultural pride. The entire school community came together to honour Kiswahili, a language that unites us across regions and backgrounds, making the day both educational and deeply meaningful.

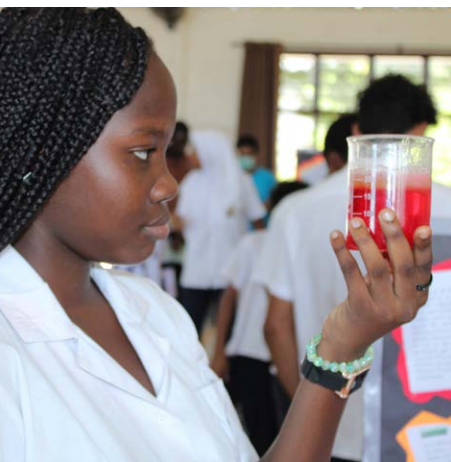
The atmosphere was alive with colour and energy as students and staff dressed in traditional Swahili attire, reflecting the beauty and richness of our coastal culture. From the flowing khangas and kitenge fabrics to the elegant kanzus and headscarves, the school grounds were transformed into a lively cultural showcase. This visual celebration set the tone for a day fully dedicated to appreciating the importance of Kiswahili in our identity and heritage.

The stage came alive with student performances that embodied the spirit of the event. Learners confidently recited moving poems, performed traditional dances, and sang songs that captured the rhythm and warmth of Kiswahili. A short skit presented by a group of students drew both laughter and reflection, highlighting the language's role in storytelling and everyday communication. Each performance not only entertained but also reminded us of the power of Kiswahili as a medium of expression, unity, and cultural preservation.

As an inaugural event, Kiswahili Day set a strong foundation for what promises to become a cherished annual tradition. It reminded us all of the importance of celebrating our roots while embracing the future, and of instilling in our learners a deeper pride in their national language. By the close of the day, one thing was clear: Kiswahili is not just a subject in school—it is a living, breathing part of who we are as a people.







HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL A YEAR OF GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

As we conclude another remarkable academic year at MM Shah and MV Shah Academy, it is with immense pride that I share a few reflections as Head of Senior School. Now in its second year, our Senior School continues to grow in strength, character, and purpose, embodying the values of resilience, curiosity, and excellence.

This year has been one of significant progress. Our learners have matured not only academically but also socially and emotionally. Their commitment to inquiry, debate, and collaboration has transformed our classrooms into vibrant hubs of learning, fully aligned with the principles of the International British Curriculum we proudly deliver. It has been inspiring to see them embrace challenges and flourish as independent thinkers.

A key milestone this year was the expansion of our Year 10 program. With learners now preparing for their IGCSEs, we introduced a wider range of subject options, strengthened our assessment structures, and provided essential guidance in study skills and pastoral care.

The enthusiasm of our learners and the dedication of our teachers ensured this transition was both smooth and successful, laying a strong foundation for future achievement.

Beyond the classroom, our students thrived in co-curricular activities that fostered creativity, teamwork, and leadership. From sports competitions and student council initiatives to science fairs, debate tournaments, and artistic showcases, these experiences shaped our learners into well-rounded individuals who demonstrate confidence, empathy,

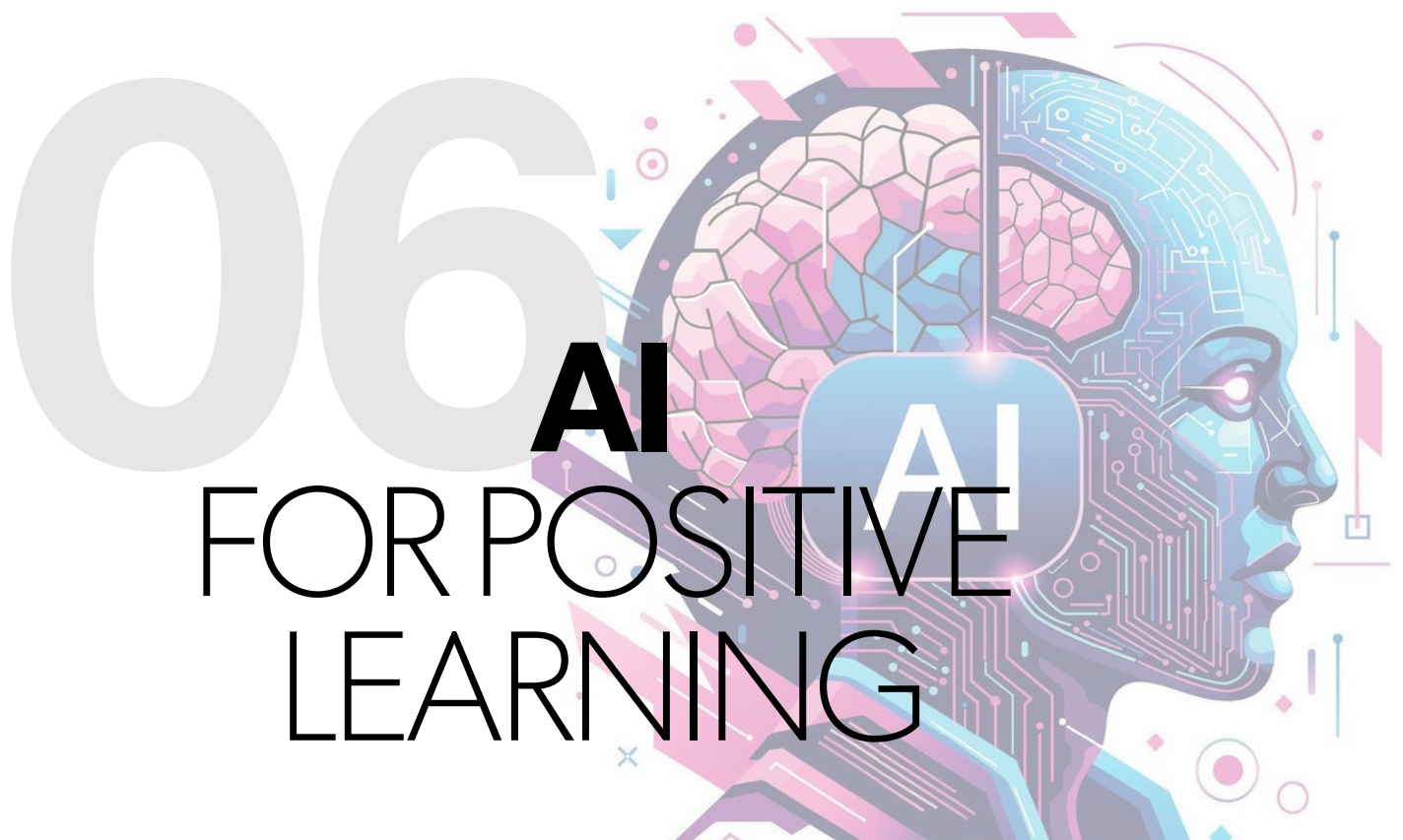
and initiative.

I must also extend my heartfelt gratitude to our teaching staff and parents. Your unwavering support and collaboration have been central to nurturing the potential of every child, ensuring that each learner feels seen, guided, and celebrated.

As we look ahead, our vision remains clear: to continue developing a Senior School that empowers learners to think critically, act responsibly, and strive for excellence. With each passing year, we are building not just a school, but a community grounded in integrity, innovation, and inclusion. May the year ahead be filled with continued growth, new opportunities, and shared success.

Warm regards,
Carey Yiembe





06 **AI** FOR POSITIVE LEARNING

Article by Grace Mollo

Artificial Intelligence is rapidly changing the way we live, work, and learn. In education, it presents both opportunities and responsibilities. For students, AI should not be seen as a shortcut, but rather as a tool to support meaningful learning.

Used appropriately, AI can assist learners in understanding complex topics, improving writing skills, and developing independent thinking. It can simplify difficult material, provide grammar and style suggestions, and help students revise effectively. With guidance, students can use AI to explore subjects more deeply and complete tasks with greater clarity.

AI also opens the door to personalised learning. Every student learns differently, and AI-powered platforms can adapt lessons to match a learner's pace, style,

and areas of need. This means that struggling students can get additional support while advanced learners are challenged with deeper, more complex material. In this way, AI can help reduce learning gaps and promote confidence by ensuring every child feels supported on their individual journey.

Beyond academics, AI can also foster creativity and innovation. Students can use it to brainstorm ideas, experiment with coding, explore data in science projects, or even simulate real-world problem-solving scenarios. Rather than limiting imagination, it has the potential to expand it—encouraging learners to ask bigger questions and think critically about the world around them.

However, it is important to remember that AI is not a replacement for personal effort. When students rely on it entirely, the result

is often work that does not reflect their voice or understanding. Teachers are familiar with their students' abilities and can easily recognise when a submission lacks authenticity.

The goal should be to encourage responsible use. Students should engage with AI as a learning partner, not as an answer provider. The most valuable outcomes occur when technology enhances, rather than replaces, human thought and creativity.

As educators and parents, we have a shared role in helping students use AI ethically and wisely. With proper guidance, it can become a powerful tool for growth, reflection, and excellence in learning. The future of education lies not in resisting technology, but in embracing it with balance, integrity, and purpose.



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SCIENCE SPARKS INNOVATION AND CURIOSITY

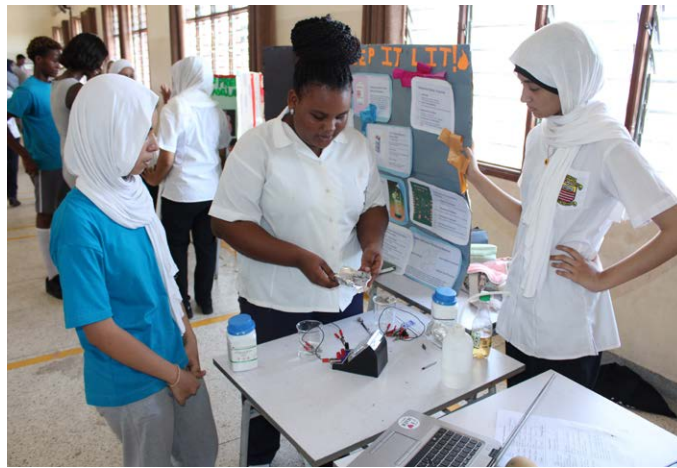
Our annual Science Day was a true celebration of curiosity, creativity, and discovery as Senior School learners proudly showcased their individual and group projects. The event brought together students, teachers, and guests, all eager to witness the incredible ideas and hard work that our learners had poured into their scientific explorations.

From the moment the exhibition opened, the atmosphere was charged with excitement. Students presented projects ranging from experiments on kinetics and human body systems to innovative explorations in liquids, filtration, and chemical reactions. Each display reflected not only scientific knowledge but also imagination and problem-solving skills. Learners spoke

passionately about their work, confidently explaining their processes and findings to both peers and visitors.

A panel of judges evaluated the projects on four key aspects: uniqueness, functionality, depth of knowledge, and content. This encouraged students to think critically about how their work could stand out while also being practical and meaningful. The feedback offered valuable insights and celebrated the effort behind every project, ensuring that each participant felt proud of their contribution.

What made this year's Science Day truly special was the spirit of collaboration and inspiration it sparked. Learners were not only



presenters but also eager audience members, asking thoughtful questions and learning from one another's discoveries. It was a reminder that science is as much about sharing knowledge as it is about exploration.

Looking ahead, next year's Science Day promises to be even more exciting, as projects will be guided by a common theme. This will allow students to explore a shared area of inquiry while still showcasing their creativity and individuality. If this year is anything to go by, we can't wait to see the innovations that our young scientists will bring to life in the future.



DEAN OF STUDIES

NURTURING EXCELLENCE, SHAPING FUTURES



We believe that academic excellence is cultivated through clarity, consistency, and care. As Dean of Studies and DSL, I am privileged to work with a dedicated team of educators committed to fostering an environment where every learner can thrive. Together, we ensure that our operations remain student-centered, structured, and fully aligned with the Cambridge curriculum's global standards.

Our academic processes are anchored in well-planned continuous assessment cycles, data-driven interventions, and close progress monitoring. These systems empower us to identify and nurture each learner's strengths while addressing areas for improvement. We strive to ensure that no child is left behind—academically, emotionally, or socially, and that every student receives the support and stretch they need to achieve their full potential.

This year also marked a significant milestone for our school with the opening of the brand-new 3rd Floor expansion. The addition of modern learning spaces, a dedicated lecture room, and an extended library will further enriched our academic

environment. These facilities not only provide room for growth as we prepare to welcome A-Level classes, but also create opportunities for more dynamic teaching, collaborative learning, and independent study. It is a proud step forward in building the future of our Senior School.

We believe that education is most powerful when it nurtures both character and competence. In our classrooms, learners are not only equipped with knowledge and skills but are also encouraged to develop resilience, empathy, and critical thinking. When students feel safe, supported, and challenged, they grow into confident, responsible global citizens who can make meaningful contributions to society.

At MM Shah–MV Shah Academy International Section, we don't just teach; we ignite purpose, passion, and potential, shaping tomorrow's leaders with integrity and excellence.

Warm regards,
Steve Biko



THIRD FLOOR EXPANSION

10



THE POWER OF CONSISTENT REVIEW AND PRACTICE

Have you ever sat for an exam and thought, “I know we learned this, but I just can’t remember!”? You’re not alone. Many students face this challenge—but some seem to recall everything with ease. What’s their secret? It’s not magic or a special memory trick. It’s something simple: consistent review and practice.

Planting the Seeds of Knowledge

Learning isn’t a one-day event. When your teacher explains a concept in class, your brain starts storing it. But here’s the catch—if you don’t revisit it, much of that information fades away. Think of your brain like a garden: the first time you learn something, you plant a seed.

Each time you review, you water it. Without water, the seed dries up; with regular care, it grows strong and lasting. Simple strategies like revisiting your notes, re-reading chapters, or explaining the topic to someone else can make your understanding rock solid.

The Power of Group Study

Studying with friends isn’t just an excuse to hang out—it’s one of the most effective learning tools. In a group, you hear fresh perspectives, ask new questions, and even get the chance to teach others. And here’s the magic: when you teach something, you actually learn it better yourself. So, the next time exams are near, grab a few classmates and turn study time into a fun and productive discussion.

Practice Makes Progress

Whether it’s solving math problems, drafting essays, or running through science experiments, practice is the key to mastery. Think about athletes—they don’t just show up on game day; they train every day. Students are no different. Doing past papers, creating flashcards, or sketching diagrams repeatedly can sharpen your skills and prepare you for any challenge.

Confidence Is the Reward

When you review regularly, practice often, and collaborate with peers, something amazing happens—you build confidence. Instead of walking into an exam full of nerves, you step in calm and prepared, knowing you’ve put in the work. Less stress, better results, and even a little enjoyment along the way!

So don’t wait until the last minute. Review daily, practice consistently, and share your learning with others. These small, steady habits don’t just boost grades—they make learning a more rewarding, and yes, even fun, journey.

Mr. Benson Gakinya
Examination Officer



11 LEARNING JOURNEYS: THE VALUE OF OUR ENTRY AND EXIT POINTS

Learning with us is more than just textbooks and classrooms—it's a journey. To make that journey meaningful, our international curriculum makes use of Entry and Exit Points, two important stages that frame how students experience each unit of study.

These points don't just mark the beginning and end of a topic; they transform learning into an engaging, reflective, and celebratory process.

An Entry Point is where the adventure begins. It introduces students to a new subject in a way that excites curiosity, activates prior knowledge, and helps them see the bigger theme of the unit. Whether through interactive activities, thought-provoking questions, or hands-on exploration,

Entry Points ensure that learners are immediately drawn into the subject matter. They set the tone by encouraging inquiry, collaboration, and the confidence to ask “why” and “how.”

The journey continues as students research, record, and reflect on their learning. Finally, it all culminates in the Exit Point, a time to celebrate achievement and showcase growth. During these Exit Points, students may present their projects, stage performances, or even host exhibitions. These moments are powerful, as they not only highlight academic progress but also help learners connect with the wider community—including teachers, parents, and peers. They provide a sense of accomplishment and reinforce the idea that learning is meant to be shared.





Entry and Exit Points remind us that education is not just about outcomes but about experiences. They encourage students to value the process, take ownership of their learning, and celebrate every milestone along the way. In doing so, they nurture skills that last a lifetime—curiosity, reflection, and the joy of sharing knowledge with others.





DEBATE TRIUMPH

CHAMPIONS OF THE MOMBASA OPEN DEBATE CHALLENGE

Article by Aileen

This year, our debate team brought immense pride to our school by taking top honors at the prestigious Mombasa Open Debate Challenge. Competing against talented debaters from across the region, our students displayed remarkable skill, confidence, and teamwork, ultimately emerging as champions.

Their success is not just a win for the school but also a reflection of the dedication, critical thinking, and eloquence they have honed through hours of preparation and practice.

The experience of participating in such a high-level competition has been invaluable for our learners. It has sharpened their ability to think on their feet, strengthened their research skills, and deepened their appreciation for civil discourse.

Beyond the trophies and recognition, the event has set new goals and targets for the coming academic year, inspiring the team to aim higher and prepare for even greater challenges ahead. The victory has also sparked fresh interest among

students across the school, with more learners eager to join the debate club and be part of its growing legacy.

We are especially proud that many of our debate champions are also delegates in the East African Model United Nations (EAMUN). Their participation in both platforms not only showcases their talent but also underscores their commitment to leadership, diplomacy, and advocacy.

As they continue to represent our school in future gatherings, we are confident that their voices will carry influence and inspiration, encouraging others to follow in their footsteps. The success of our debate team marks a bright chapter in our journey and sets the tone for even greater accomplishments to come.



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THE INVISIBLE EMBRACE OUR SCHOOLS UNSUNG HEROES

Article by Rida

Our school is a vibrant tapestry woven with learning, friendship, and discovery. While our teachers form the visible patterns at the front, there is a quieter, often unseen layer of dedication and care that holds everything together. These are the unsung heroes of our school—the guardians of our comfort, the builders of a safe environment, and the steady hands that support our journey each day. Their tireless work makes our school feel less like a place of routine and more like a nurturing home.

In the heart of our school lies the library, lovingly cared for by Jessica. More than a keeper of books, she is a guiding star who helps students navigate both their academic and personal journeys. With warmth and patience, she encourages exploration, supports research, and inspires creativity.

Whether it's helping a student find just the right resource, recommending a story that sparks imagination, or offering calm reassurance during stressful times, Jessica's presence reminds us that learning is as much about discovery as it is about knowledge. Her dedication ensures the library remains a place where curiosity is nurtured and young minds continue to blossom.

Every morning and evening, the watchful presence of Emelvin and Julius greets us at the school gates. Their role extends far beyond opening and closing; they provide a sense of security and belonging the moment we step onto campus.

Along with their team, they ensure every corner of our school is safe, welcoming, and ready for learning. Their vigilance and care may go unnoticed by many, but their steady commitment allows students and staff alike to feel at ease, focusing on growth and community.

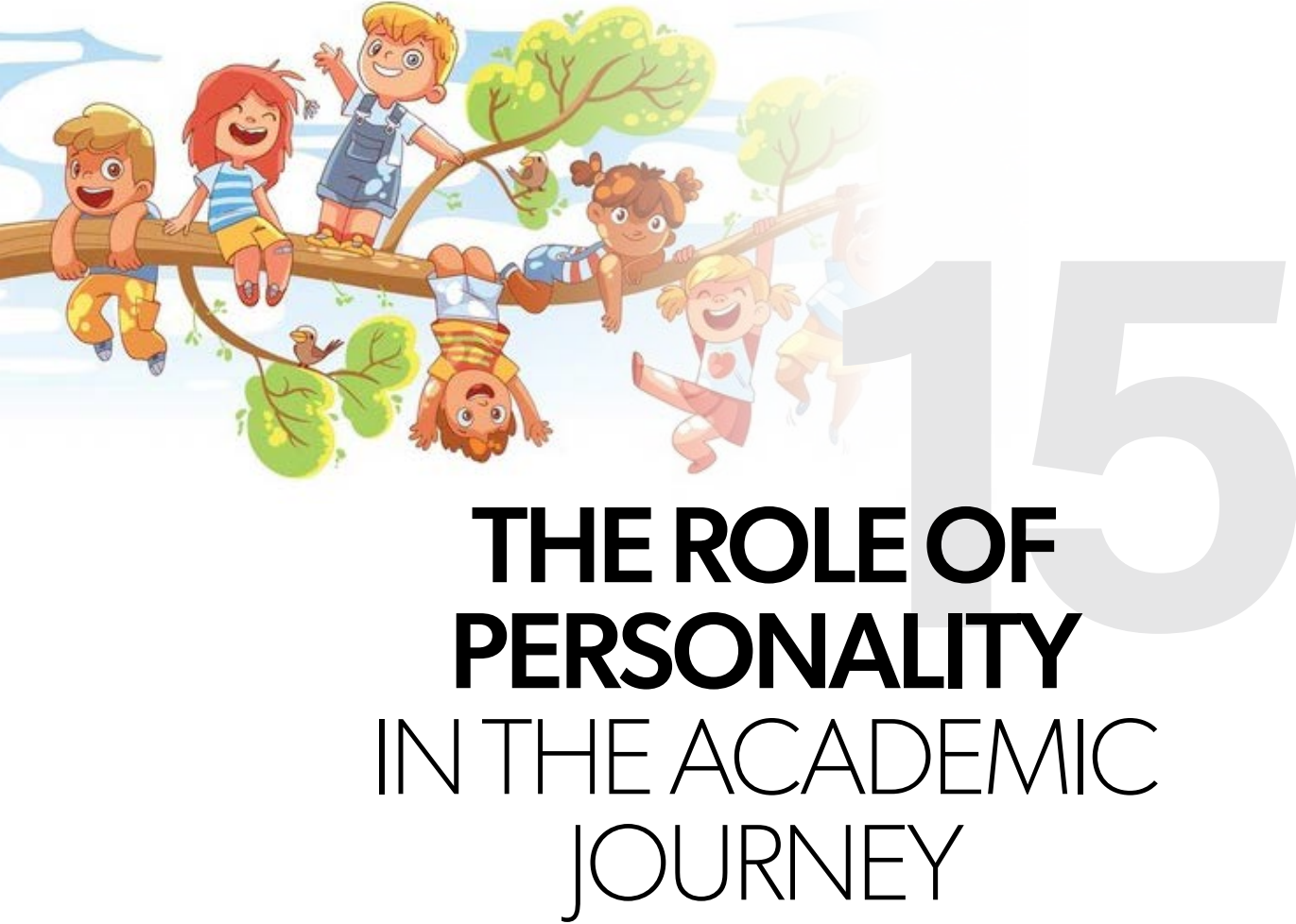
Equally vital, though often unseen, is the effort of our hardworking cleaning crew. They are the reason our classrooms, hallways, and common areas remain spotless, ready for every lesson and gathering. Their daily work is a commitment not only to cleanliness but also to our health and comfort. Without their dedication, our environment would not be the safe and pleasant place it is today. Their unseen efforts truly form the foundation of our well-being.

And then, there is the warmth that comes from the cafeteria, where Mama Amina and her team prepare meals with love and care. Each dish is more than

food—it is nourishment for both body and soul. She cooks with students in mind, remembering favourites and ensuring everyone feels cared for. The aromas that drift from the kitchen remind us that school is not only about learning but also about community and shared moments of joy.

So the next time you enjoy a well-kept classroom, a safe arrival at school, a comforting story from the library, or a delicious meal, pause to think of the hands and hearts that made it possible. Jessica, Emelvin, Julius, Mama Amina, our gardeners, and our cleaning crew are the pillars that quietly uphold our school.

A simple smile or a heartfelt thank you is enough to show them how deeply valued they are. Their work may be unseen, but it is their invisible embrace that makes our school the welcoming home we cherish.



THE ROLE OF PERSONALITY IN THE ACADEMIC JOURNEY

Article by Counsellor Mercy
Counselling and Wellness Department

Every child approaches learning in a unique way. Some are naturally organized and self-driven, while others thrive with encouragement, reminders, or the freedom to explore creatively. These differences are not simply about study habits; they are closely tied to personality. Understanding how personality influences learning can help parents and educators better support a child's academic growth, emotional well-being, and overall confidence.

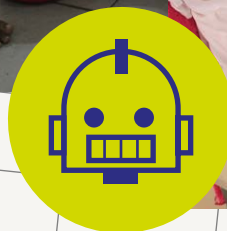
Personality refers to the set of traits that shape how a person thinks, feels, and behaves. It affects how a child approaches schoolwork, relates to teachers and peers, and responds to challenges and feedback.

Psychologists often describe personality through the "Big Five" model, which includes openness, conscientiousness, extraversion, agreeableness, and emotional stability. Each of these traits plays a role in shaping a student's learning style. For example, children high in openness are curious and imaginative, flourishing when given opportunities to discover and create.

Conscientious students are responsible and disciplined, excelling with structure and routine. Extraverted learners thrive in group work and discussions, while agreeable students bring kindness and cooperation into collaborative settings. Emotional stability, or the ability to manage stress, also influences how well children handle academic pressures and setbacks.

What matters most is recognizing that no single trait is better than another. Each child has strengths and areas where they may need support. Some benefit from extra structure and guidance, while others need the freedom to explore. Some may require reassurance during moments of self-doubt, while others need encouragement to focus and slow down.

At our school, the Counseling and Wellness Department is committed to nurturing every learner's individuality. Through a holistic and student-centered approach, we provide guidance, mentoring, and wellness initiatives that promote resilience, self-awareness, and lifelong learning. By embracing personality as part of the academic journey, we empower students to thrive both inside and outside the classroom.



CLUB NOTES:
WE LOVE OUR CLUBS

16

ONE PAWN AT A TIME

Article by Lap

Chess is a competitive sport, and to me, it is more than just a game. It not only improves my critical thinking but also impacts how I live in real life. Chess tournaments happen every single day, with some offering prize money. One of the current best players, Magnus Carlsen, makes over a million US dollars a month just by playing chess, which shows just how powerful this game can be.

I know chess may be hard and long to learn, but it helps me in so many ways. Just like in life, I believe we must move one pawn at a time, giving as many checks as possible until we finally deliver checkmate. Every game teaches me to be patient, careful, and determined to reach the end goal.

Learning chess at a young age has made a big difference for me. When the mind is still fresh, it is easier to understand strategies and ideas. Chess has helped me not only in the game but also in my personal life, giving me stronger critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Being a chess player as a hobby is amazing, and it has even helped me in school—like strategizing my revision plans and much more.

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Article by Tawfiq

Have you ever wanted to jump into the future and explore robots? For me, robotics is just that—a chance to create, code, and bring machines to life. I remember when my team and I built a robot only to realize we had messed up a firewall. At first it was frustrating, but we were glad too, because it showed us what we had missed. In robotics, you learn that mistakes don't mean failure—they mean growth.

To me, robotics isn't just a geeky club. It's about thinking through problems, experimenting with ideas, and most importantly, thinking outside the box. People might say it's boring, but in truth it's about discovery, creativity, and making new machines.

The benefits are huge. Robotics pushes my brain to think in ways I never thought possible. It builds problem-solving skills, critical thinking, and teamwork. And with robots playing a bigger role in daily life, it also opens doors for future careers. For me, robotics isn't just about machines—it's about building the future, one code at a time.

17 SHINING STARS CLASS OF 2025 GRADUATION





This year's annual graduation ceremony was a truly memorable occasion as both our Reception class and Year 6 students marked important milestones in their learning journey. The event was filled with pride, joy, and heartfelt emotion, as families, teachers, and friends gathered to celebrate the achievements of our learners and the bright futures ahead of them.

The youngest graduates, our Reception class, captured hearts with their stage confidence and charming performances. From songs to short recitals, our Early Years angels showcased not only their growing talents but also the joy and creativity that have defined their first steps

in education. Their presence on stage was a touching reminder of how far they have come and the exciting paths that lie before them.

Our Year 6 graduates, meanwhile, impressed with heartfelt speeches that reflected maturity, gratitude, and ambition. They spoke with poise about their experiences in Primary, the friendships they have built, and the lessons that will guide them as they step into Senior School. Their reflections reminded us of the powerful role education plays in shaping not just learners but future leaders.

The ceremony was more than a

celebration of achievement—it was a testament to the growth, resilience, and promise of every child who crossed the stage. Looking ahead, next year's graduation will be even more significant as we celebrate three classes: Reception, Year 6, and, for the very first time, Year 11 learners as they transition to A Levels. This exciting new chapter reflects our school's continuous growth and commitment to providing a complete pathway of excellence for all our students.

Our graduation day was not just an ending, but a new beginning for each learner—a reminder that every milestone reached is also a launchpad for greater success.



19 STORIES COME ALIVE BOOK WEEK

During Book Week, our school was transformed into a living library filled with characters from every corner of literature. Hallways bustled with wizards, detectives, and storybook heroes, each costume bringing a beloved book to life. Students and teachers alike shared their favourite reads, recommending titles that had inspired, challenged, or delighted them. It was a week devoted to the joy of reading and the endless worlds it opens up.

The highlight of the week was our annual Book Fair, where tables were stacked high with books for every age and interest. The atmosphere buzzed with excitement as students eagerly browsed through new titles, thrilled at the chance to take home fresh stories to explore. Adding even more richness to the event were special sessions with local authors and illustrators, who shared their creative journeys

and gave our budding writers a glimpse into the art of storytelling. The visit from Storymoja publishers added another layer of excitement, with their dramatized story readings captivating audiences and showing just how alive a book can become when performed with energy and imagination.

Peer reading sessions also gave learners the chance to connect across year groups, with older students reading to younger ones and sparking meaningful conversations about characters, themes, and lessons. The joy on both sides showed how stories can bridge ages and create shared experiences of wonder. Adding a playful twist, the “Extreme Reading Challenge” had students competing to read in the funniest and most unusual places around the school—from tucked inside lockers to perched on playground equipment—creating laughter and showing that reading can truly happen anywhere.





As the week culminated in our grand Book Week Celebration, the school came alive with performances that showcased the creativity and talent of our learners. Plays and skits brought favourite stories to the stage, while heartfelt poems reminded us of the emotional power of words. The celebration also included a prize-giving ceremony where students who stood out in the week's various challenges—ranging from costume creativity to reading contests—were awarded for their enthusiasm and effort. The cheers, applause, and proud smiles reflected a community united by its love of books and storytelling.

Book Week wasn't just about reading—it was about building a community of storytellers and celebrating the imagination that thrives in every child. The conversations sparked, the connections made over shared favourites, the laughter from extreme reading, and the inspiration from authors and peers will continue to guide our students long after the week has ended. In an increasingly digital world, Book Week served as a beautiful reminder of the power of stories to spark imagination, strengthen community, and bring people together.





LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM SCHOOL TRIPS

One of the highlights of the academic year has been our much-anticipated school trips, where learners from Early Years to Senior School stepped beyond the classroom walls and into a world of exploration, adventure, and hands-on learning. These excursions not only reinforced classroom knowledge but also allowed students to bond with peers, discover new interests, and develop a deeper appreciation of the rich cultural and natural heritage of our coastal region.

Our youngest learners in Early Years enjoyed a fun-filled day at a water park, a celebration of a term well spent. Laughter, play, and shared experiences defined their excursion, giving the children a joyful break while fostering teamwork and confidence through play.

Year 1 and 2 pupils travelled to Diani, where they experienced the magic of the marine area, enjoyed the thrill of camel rides along the beach,



and spent time soaking in the beauty of Kenya's coastal environment. These early trips created lasting memories while sparking curiosity about the world beyond their classrooms.

For our primary students, the trips combined fun with cultural exploration. Year 3 embarked on an exciting journey to Fort Jesus and its National Museum, where history came alive as they explored the iconic fortress and its stories of the past. Year 5 learners were hosted at Leopard Beach Hotel, where they not only enjoyed the coastal setting but also engaged with cultural and art exhibits, broadening their understanding of the diverse traditions of our region. Each trip provided a blend of education and enjoyment, deepening their connection to Kenya's heritage.



In Senior School, the excursions were both adventurous and educational. Year 8 learners had an unforgettable visit to the Falconry, where they handled birds of prey and discovered fascinating facts about wildlife conservation. Their trip continued with tours of the Vasco da Gama Pillar, Gede Ruins, and the National Museum in Malindi, immersing them in the historic cultures and ancient architecture of the coastal town.



Year 10 students explored the Malindi Marine Park, gaining firsthand experience of marine biodiversity and the importance of conservation. These excursions challenged our older learners to engage critically with both the environment and history, enriching their academic journey in powerful ways.



Across every year group, the trips captured the essence of experiential learning—connecting knowledge with real-world experiences. Whether through cultural discovery, historical exploration, or joyful play, each excursion offered unique lessons that will remain with our students for years to come. These journeys outside the classroom are more than just outings; they are opportunities for growth, curiosity, and lifelong memories that truly complement our mission of holistic education.





VICTORY FOR TSAVO SPORTS DAY

Sports Day 2025 was a dazzling display of athletic skill, teamwork, and pure competitive spirit. The school field came alive with cheers and vibrant house colours as students prepared to compete in a variety of events. From the younger pupils' sack races and three-legged runs to the high-energy football and relay races, there was something for everyone. The atmosphere was electric, with patrons joining in to encourage their teams.

The rivalry between the three houses was friendly but fierce, with each team determined to claim the coveted Sports Day trophy. Matches were close, particularly in basketball and athletics, where



a single point or second often determined the winner. However, it was **Tsavo House** who ultimately triumphed, their combined efforts across all events securing their position as champions. The joy on their faces during the trophy presentation was matched only by the gracious applause from the other houses.

More than just a competition, Sports Day highlighted the importance of perseverance, discipline, and sportsmanship. Every participant, win or lose, walked away with valuable lessons about teamwork and resilience.

As the sun set on a day filled with energy and excitement, it was clear that Sports Day was not just about medals, but about building character and strengthening our school community.



27 NUMBERS IN ACTION CELEBRATING MATH DAY

This year's Math Day was a vibrant celebration of problem-solving, creativity, and teamwork, designed to show our learners that mathematics is more than numbers on a page—it is a way of thinking, reasoning, and exploring the world around us. For one exciting day, students across all year groups participated in a variety of challenges that brought the subject to life in fun and interactive ways.

The school buzzed with energy as learners competed in Sudoku contests, tackled intricate floor puzzles, and tested their accuracy and focus in a lively archery match where each shot depended on solving equations.

Cone challenges and logic-based activities added a physical element, blending movement with mental agility. These activities encouraged collaboration, with students working in teams to solve problems and cheering one another on as they stretched their mathematical thinking in creative and unexpected ways.

By the end of the celebration, the true spirit of Math Day was clear: mathematics is not only about formulas and answers, but also about curiosity, strategy, and resilience. Teachers and peers applauded not only correct solutions but also perseverance and teamwork. Numbers came alive that day—not just as symbols on a page, but as tools for play, discovery, and connection—leaving students inspired to approach the subject with fresh confidence and joy.



TIP FOR MATHEMATICIANS

Remember BODMAS – Brackets, Orders, Division, Multiplication, Addition, Subtraction. Following this order makes solving equations easier and error-free!



KICKING HIGHER: TAEKWONDO GRADING SUCCESS



Our Taekwondo club members took to the mat with pride, determination, and an eagerness to showcase their progress in the sport. The grading session was a true test of discipline and skill as students demonstrated their mastery of routines, quick kicks, powerful punches, and even the exciting challenge of board breaking. Each moment reflected not only their physical ability but also the confidence and focus that Taekwondo instills in every learner.

The grading was more than just a test—it was a celebration of growth. Every participant pushed themselves to rise to the occasion, proving how far they have come since the beginning of their training. The

determination in their faces and the precision of their movements spoke volumes about the hard work and commitment they had put into practice. Coaches, teachers, and peers watched with pride as the students executed each challenge with courage and respect, the very core values of martial arts.

We are delighted to share that all our Taekwondo members successfully graduated to new grades, earning their next belts with honor. This achievement is not just about the belts themselves, but about the perseverance, discipline, and self-belief that carried them there. As we look ahead to the next academic year, we can't wait to see our young martial artists donning their new belts with pride, ready to aim higher, kick stronger, and continue their journey in this empowering sport.



TIP FOR TAEKWONDO MEMBERS

A well-placed kick or punch delivered with balance is far more effective than rushing in. Remember: smart sparring builds real skill.



31 LITTLE STEPS BIG GROWTH

Each day in our Early Years classrooms is a story of confidence blooming. As our youngest learners settle into the school environment, we see them slowly but surely finding their voices, building friendships, and growing braver with every challenge. Through play, discovery, and carefully guided activities, they are learning not only to read and count, but also to express themselves and explore the world around them. Their laughter and curiosity fill our spaces, reminding us of the joy of new beginnings.

Our Early Years curriculum is designed with creativity and care, using a wide range of engaging resources to help children retain subject material in ways that feel natural and exciting. Songs, stories, role play, art, and hands-on activities bring concepts to life, ensuring that learning is never just about memorization but about genuine



understanding. Whether they are exploring numbers through building blocks, learning language through storytelling, or discovering science by planting seeds in the garden, every activity is a step toward deeper learning.

Equally important are the social and emotional skills that children develop at this stage. Group play, circle-time discussions, and cooperative activities help them learn to share, listen, and work together. These moments of interaction are where confidence quietly takes root—when a shy child raises their hand to answer, when a group presents a simple skit, or when a learner proudly shares their artwork with the class. For us, these small victories are just as meaningful as academic progress.





This year, we say a fond goodbye to our Reception class as they move on to Year One, ready to take on new adventures with the strong foundation they have built. Watching them graduate from the playful early stages into more structured learning is always emotional, but it fills us with pride to see how much they have grown. At the same time, we eagerly await welcoming a new team of little angels into our Early Years family. Their journey is just beginning, and we look forward to guiding them as they take their first steps into school life.

It is always a warm and heartening sight to watch our children flourish, knowing they are nurtured in a serene, safe, and supportive environment that feels like home. Here, they are encouraged to try, to fail, to try again, and to celebrate their successes—no matter how small.

With each passing year, we are reminded that the smallest steps often lead to the biggest growth. In Early Years, we don't just prepare children for school—we prepare them for a lifetime of curiosity, confidence, and joy in learning.



YEAR 6: LESSONS, LAUGHS, AND GROWTH

Article by Ayoub

Year 6. Where do I even begin? At the start of the year, I had no idea what I was walking into, especially with Checkpoint looming over me. Everyone was talking about it, saying how important it was, and I honestly felt like I was in way over my head. It sounded like the kind of thing that could totally stress you out. But now that it's all over, I can honestly say that, even with all the nerves, Year 6 was a year of growth, learning, and moments I'll never forget.

One thing I didn't expect to enjoy was helping my teacher, Mr. Benson, mark the maths tests. I know that probably sounds weird, but it actually ended up being a fun experience. It made me feel like I was part of the process. I loved seeing how my classmates solved the problems in different ways. Some were super neat and quick, while others... not so much. But either way, it helped me get a deeper understanding of maths. Plus, it made me realize just how much I'd learned over the year. Maths is one of my favourite subjects, and being involved in marking felt like a little reward for all that hard work.

Then there was science. Science was one of those subjects where some days I was super into it—like when we learned about the human body or electricity. Those lessons were fun and made me want to read more about it outside of class. But other days, it felt a bit harder to wrap my head around. It wasn't that I didn't get it; it was just that I had to really focus to make everything click. It was like Goldilocks—some days it felt just right, and other days, it was a bit too much. But by the end of the year, I felt a lot more confident. A huge thank you to Miss Carol for making those lessons exciting and for breaking things down in a way that made them so much easier to understand.

English was a whole other story. I won't lie—it was rough at the beginning. I struggled with writing essays, understanding long texts, and all that grammar stuff. I remember thinking, "How on earth am I going to get through this?" But eventually, things started clicking. Mrs. Clara was always there to help, and once I figured out the structure and how to focus on the important things, writing and reading became a lot more enjoyable. By the end of the year, I could look back and feel proud of how far I'd come. It was still a work in progress, but it wasn't nearly as scary as it felt at the start.

When it came to Checkpoint, I was nervous, but also curious. I thought it would be much more stressful than it actually was. Sure, it was a long test, but I didn't feel overwhelmed once I started. It felt more like a challenge to take on rather than something to fear. I did my best, and that's all anyone can do. Looking back, I'm proud of how I handled it.

Of course, Year 6 wasn't all about the stress and studying. There were so many moments that still make me laugh when I think about them. One of my favourite memories was during a revision session when my friend Ryan accidentally called a "vocabulary list" a "vacuum list," and we spent the next ten minutes cracking jokes about how a vacuum could clean up words. It sounds silly, but those little moments made school so much more enjoyable and took the edge off the stress.

I can't forget to thank my teachers. They played a huge part in making this year so memorable. Mr. Beson—thank you for making maths feel like an adventure. You're one of those teachers who can explain something tough in a way that just clicks. And Mrs. Clara, you pushed me to keep going with English, even when I didn't

believe in myself. You helped me get to a place where I actually enjoyed writing and reading. And then there's Miss Carol, who made science so much easier to get into. She was always so passionate about the subject, and that passion made me want to dive deeper into the topics we studied.

And I can't forget Tasveer, the best school counselor I've ever met. Thank you for always being there to talk to, for listening when I needed to vent, and for helping me navigate through some of the tougher moments. You've made such a difference in how I handled everything, and I'm truly grateful for your support.

Year 6 taught me something important: learning isn't a straight line. There were days when I felt stuck, and then there were days when everything clicked. And that's okay. What matters is pushing through, even when it gets hard. Checkpoint wasn't just about the test—it was about realizing how much we've all grown, even when we didn't feel like it.

So, if you're nervous about Year 6 or Checkpoint, don't worry too much. It's challenging, yes, but it's also a time to figure out how far you've come. You might surprise yourself, just like I did.

Thank you to everyone—my teachers, friends, Tasveer, and even the past version of me who kept going, even when it felt tough. Year 6, you were a lot, but you were totally worth it.



Waheeda
Year 10

BEYOND THE TITLE: A YEAR OF GROWTH IN LEADERSHIP

Serving as the President of my school has been an enriching and fulfilling experience, one that has shaped me into a confident leader and a proactive problem solver. Every day brings new challenges, but the joy of making a difference—whether by advocating for students' needs, organizing impactful events with my teachers, or fostering a sense of unity among my schoolmates—makes it all worthwhile.

I take pride in being a voice for others, ensuring that every student's ideas are heard and valued. While the responsibility can be demanding at times, the growth I've experienced—both personally and academically—has been invaluable. My peers have also been incredibly collaborative, reminding me that true leadership thrives on teamwork and mutual respect.

For me, the presidency is not just a title—it's a journey. It is about leadership, teamwork, and positive change, and I am grateful for the opportunity to serve, grow, and leave a meaningful mark on our school community.

FINDING MY VOICE AT MSMUN

Article by Imrana

Attending the annual East African Model United Nations (EAMUN) in Nairobi was a breathtaking experience. This was my second time at an MUN conference, and while I was excited, stepping into the United Nations Headquarters filled me with nerves.

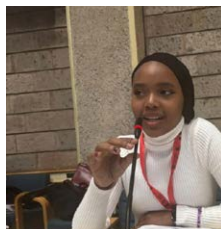
Thankfully, with the support of my team and our advisor, Miss Grace, I gained the confidence to embrace the challenge. What surprised me most was the lighthearted and welcoming atmosphere—especially the humorous opening by the chairs—which reminded me that MUN is not only formal, but also about connection and growth.

The conference itself was a journey of learning. I represented Mongolia in the HDC committee, where we debated topics such as the USA's involvement in Vietnam and the fairness of the Treaty of Versailles. Researching,

presenting, and defending arguments pushed me to sharpen my public speaking and negotiation skills. Most importantly, I learned the true value of diplomacy in solving global conflicts.

Outside the sessions, I built friendships with delegates from many schools and even chairs, sharing stories about our cultures and dreams. These bonds, along with the chance to explore Nairobi, made the experience even more memorable. MUN gave me more than knowledge—it gave me community.

As the closing ceremony came to an end, I reflected on the growth I had made. The experience deepened my appreciation for dialogue, cooperation, and youth leadership. My goal now is to return with greater confidence—perhaps earning Best Delegate, Best Speaker, or even serving as a chair in the future.



CLASS PHOTOS

2024 - 2025

PLAYGROUP

"Every big dream starts small — just like us, learning, laughing, and taking our very first steps into a world of endless possibilities."



Eliana, Isaam, Ayan, Aiden, Manaahil, Maysa, Aaliyah, Lloyd, Adam, Ruby, Lara, Bildad

Class Teacher : Ms. Lucy



Caregiver: Ms. Clemence

NURSERY

"Curiosity is our superpower — every question we ask opens the door to new adventures."



Caregiver: Ms. Afiya

Scott, Sarah, Husnee, Abdallah, Maher, Drew, Declan, Yashna, Prish, Eleanor, Tania,
Rayna, Reina, Natalie

Class Teacher : Ms. Joan

RECEPTION

"The best stories begin with small steps, bright smiles, and hearts ready to learn."



Talabib, Hailey, Ayden, Hannan, Giana, Mali, Lexi, Mansa

Class Teacher : Ms. Lutfiya



Caregiver: Ms. Paola

YEAR ONE

"In Year 1 we discovered that even the smallest hands can hold the biggest dreams."



Alma, Arthur, Arya, asiya, Ayman, Camilla, Hajra A, Hajra N, Hannah, Jibril, June, Kaysan, Kiyaan, Milan, Mohammed, Mubarak, Nasrudini, Omar, Rumaisa, Samara, Zakiya, Janette

Class Teacher : Ms. Faith

YEAR TWO

"Each lesson is a stepping stone, and together we are building the path to greatness."



Ayman, Azmina, Corley, Dyles, Falhadho, Hashvi, Khulud, Kirill, Maryam, Nia,
Ruby, Sahil, Sifa, Stephanie, Victoria, Yousef, Zoe

Class Teacher : Ms. Rose
Asst. Teacher : Ms. Elizabeth

YEAR THREE

"Our imagination has no limits, and every day is a chance to create something amazing."



Chelsea, Love-Anaya, Salma, Inaaya, Amal, Mukhtar, Najim, Johnson, Adrian,
Sudais, Burton, Maher, Hanif, Ahmed, Azhaar, Logan

Class Teacher : Ms. Dinah

YEAR FOUR

"Confidence grows when we try, learn, and shine brighter with every challenge."



Bhavik, Harrison, Jon, Judith, Junaid, Khifa, Liam, Liyana, Mariam, Mohamed,
Nelson, Nuzla, Nygel, Raheel, Rushika, Shaheed, Viransh, Wayne, Yaqoub

Class Teacher : Ms. Clara

YEAR FIVE

"We are explorers of knowledge, ready to climb higher and reach further than ever before."



Vania, Aisha, Mohammed, Peretz, Abdallah, Balqis, Mathew, Eman, Daisy, Saad, Hope

Class Teacher : Mr. Benson

YEAR SIX

"Year 6 taught us that teamwork, resilience, and courage take us closer to our goals."



Ryan, Thanzeel, Ayoub, Anthony, Joseph, Alexandra, Naeima, Ahmed, Solace, Himes, Tasveer, Briana, Amir

Class Teacher : Ms. Carol

YEAR SEVEN

"A new chapter begins — with bold ideas, fresh challenges, and the strength to soar."



Maliah, Lauren, Leila, Mia, Najwa, Zaneera, Clarissa, Maria, Simba, Caleb, Leila

Class Teacher : Ms. Lyann

YEAR EIGHT

"In Year 8 we learned that growth comes from daring to dream and daring to do."



Ibtisam, Saada, Mohammed, Omar, Imran, Pal, Tariq, Rashid, David, Mohamed, Ayub, Tawfiq,
Najat, Swaun, Clement, Angel, Benjamin, Abdulbasit, Fredrick, Carena, Asrar, Fatma, Kayla

Class Teacher : Ms. Beryl

YEAR NINE

"Every challenge is an opportunity, and every step forward brings us closer to who we want to be."



Essam , Fatma, Ruweina, Lotheyfa, Mohammed, Liban

Class Teacher : Mr. Moses

YEAR TEN

"The future is ours to shape — with passion in our hearts and determination in our stride."



Aileen, Waheeda, Arham, Faizaan, Fatimah, Imrana, Stacy, Rida, Nargis, Rumaisa

Class Teacher : Ms. Grace



#TheArts

'Perspective View' Pencil Drawing by Fatma



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