

OCTOBER 18, 2024

The Phoenix

Waterford Kamhlaba UWCSA Weekly Newsletter



UWC African Regional National Committees meeting in the Michael Stern Hall last Friday.

PRINCIPAL'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

By Jackie Otula

Over the mid-term break, we had the privilege of hosting the UWC African Regional National Committees (NC) meeting on campus. It was a pleasure to welcome NC representatives, UWC International Office officials, Heads of UWC Schools and Colleges, as well as colleagues from various institutions. Their discussions on crucial matters affecting the NCs and the broader UWC movement were both productive and inspiring. We look forward to hosting them again in the future.

Last week, we also held the Form 4 Parents Meeting, which can still be accessed through [this link](#). This week, it was wonderful to welcome our students and staff back after the mid-term break. We hope everyone took the opportunity to rest and recharge. It was heartwarming to see everyone in high spirits, especially at Wednesday's assembly. During the assembly, members of the Parent-Staff Association (PSA) generously presented gifts to our teachers in commemoration of World Teachers' Day 2024. We are deeply grateful to the PSA for their thoughtful gesture—which was inspiring as we continue to navigate the rewarding and sometimes challenging journey of education.

As exam season continues, our IB2 students have begun their study break in preparation for their final exams. We wish them and all our students the very best during this critical time. We believe in their potential and stand ready to support them every step of the way.

Graduation season is upon us, and detailed information about both the Form 5 and IB graduation events is included in this newsletter. Please take the time to review it as you plan for these significant milestones. We look forward to welcoming families to join us on campus as we celebrate the

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend ahead.

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Newsletter Highlights

Principal's Weekly Message

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GRADUATION EVENTS

We have reached that time of the year where we will be selling graduation tickets. These tickets will be available from Monday October 21st at the reception. As we are closing out the accounts for our Form 5 and IB2 students, we will not charge the cost of the tickets to the student account. You will need to purchase the tickets either with cash or card. Ticket purchases can be made every day of the week from 2:00 to 4:00pm. If necessary your child can reserve tickets and you are able to process payment on the day between 10:00am and 11:00am. Details of the events are listed below:

November 9th – IB2 Graduation

- Starts promptly at 11:00am (Guests to be seated by 10:45am)

- Tickets cost E280.00 per guest. Each IB2 student is allowed 3 guests (due to space limitation)
- Each IB2 student will get one ticket at no cost

November 16th – Form 5 Graduation

- Starts promptly at 11:00am (Guests to be seated by 10:45)
- Tickets cost E240.00 per guest. Each Form 5 student is allowed 2 guests (due to space limitation)
- Each Form 5 student will get one ticket at no cost

We look forward to seeing parents and guardians on graduation day.



Teaching staff receiving their gifts from the PSA during assembly on Wednesday.



UWC Engagement and Communication officials with WK's Advancement team members last Friday.





TEACHERS DAY MESSAGE FROM THE PSA

In recognition of World Teacher's Day 2024, the Parents and Staff Association would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to each one of you. This year's theme, "*Valuing Teacher Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education*," resonates deeply with us, as we recognize the critical role you play in shaping not only the minds of our children but the future of society itself.

Your voices and efforts go beyond the classroom, creating a nurturing environment where students can thrive academically, emotionally, and socially. You are at the forefront of compassion, and dedication, continuously adapting to new challenges while never losing sight of your commitment to every student's growth.

We understand that the role of a teacher has evolved, and your contributions are more essential than ever. You are not only educators but mentors, guides, and role models. Your dedication

to fostering curiosity, critical thinking, and empathy helps create a brighter future for our children and the world they will inherit.

These days, a new social contract for education has emerged, one that we, as parents at home and as teachers in school, must navigate together. Our children face challenges previously unknown, from the isolation brought by COVID-19 to the widespread influence of social media and the rapid advancement of AI. This new landscape requires all of us—newcomers to this era—to adapt, understand, and find ways to guide our children as they navigate this evolving world. Together, with collaboration and support, we can rise to the challenge and help them thrive.

We celebrate you, your voices, and the immeasurable impact you have on our children's lives. Thank you for your passion, resilience, and unwavering commitment to education.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 9 November: IB Graduation
- 16 November: F5 Graduation
- 21 November: Lessons end
- 22 November: Term ends
- [2024 Calendar](#)
- [2025 Calendar](#)



HELP US IMPROVE OUR NEWSLETTER (FEEDBACK)

Help us improve our newsletter (Feedback) We kindly ask for feedback concerning this newsletter. The purpose of the weekly newsletter is primarily to inform parents about anything and everything school-related, from school activities on campus to management decisions, news, schedule changes, updates, event, and other community developments. We kindly ask for your feedback or ideas in terms of how to improve the newsletter – we would like to know whether or not it is helpful and how best to improve it. Send us an email: communications@waterford.sz