

OCTOBER 4, 2024

The Phoenix

Waterford Kamhlaba UWCSA Weekly Newsletter



Picture from IB2 Leavers. Credit: Andrew Olayo and Siviwe Mashinini

PRINCIPAL'S WEEKLY MESSAGE

By Jackie Otula

As we wrap up this chilly week in Mbabane, we are reminded of our spirit of resilience. Our students have continued to win tournaments, they sit their exams and remain active despite the weather. Atop this hill, our Form 5 students began their final examinations this past Tuesday, followed by the IB1s who started theirs yesterday. In just two weeks, our IB2s will commence their final exams, and with that, we will turn our attention to the much-anticipated graduation seasons in November. The school is now fully in exam mode, and we would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students the best in their examinations. We are confident in their ability to perform well, encouraged by the hard work they have shown throughout the year.

Last Friday, our students showcased their creativity and commitment to environmental sustainability during the Glam Trash Fashion Festival. This annual event highlights the importance of recycling by featuring fashion designs made from recyclable materials. We were deeply impressed by the leadership - demonstrated through this initiative - as they showcased our mission of promoting environmental awareness and sustainable living.

The past weekend was equally eventful, with the IB2 Leavers gathering, the Waterford Kamhlaba Model Parliamentary Assembly Conference, and several sporting activities. These are all included in this week's newsletter for your enjoyment and reflection on our vibrant school life.

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Newsletter Highlights

Principal's Weekly Message

Model Parliamentary Assembly

Sporting Activities

Spring and Allergies

Today, members of our Advancement Department traveled to Johannesburg for an alumni event, where we aim to reconnect with and engage our alumni. They are key custodians of the College's legacy, and it is always inspiring to see them taking the lead in fostering meaningful connections with WK. We wish them a successful and enriching event tomorrow.

Looking ahead, we are excited to host the UWC Africa Regional National Committees (NCs) meeting during the mid-term break next week. It is an honour for the College to welcome colleagues from across Africa, some UWC Heads, as well as representatives from

the UWC International Office. Hosting this important gathering speaks to Waterford's ongoing role in shaping global leaders and furthering the UWC agenda.

In all that we do, we strive for excellence, driven by our shared sense of purpose. We are fully aware of the significant responsibility we carry in shaping future leaders who will positively impact the world. Let us continue this journey together with Kamhlaba pride.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

MORE PICTURES FROM IB2 LEAVERS



WK MODEL PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY CONFERENCE 2024!

By Sudfa Niyom, MPA Secretary General

As part of a CAS project led by Waterford's IB1 students, the school hosted a simulation of the Pan-African Parliament on Saturday, 28th September 2024. This event brought together both Waterford students and participants from local schools, who took on the roles of up to five Members of Parliament from the Pan-African Parliament. The goal was to raise awareness and discuss potential solutions to the pressing issue of political instability in Central and Western Africa.

Throughout the conference, students engaged in thoughtful and productive debates in a setting modeled after the African Union's Pan-African Parliament. They explored a range of solutions aimed at addressing the growing number of coups and the political violence carried out by both state and non-state actors in these regions. The conference was a powerful platform for young leaders to develop a deeper understanding of Africa's political challenges while honing their diplomatic and critical thinking skills.



SPORTING ACTIVITIES

This past weekend, our Under-15 volleyball teams competed in a tournament at Jabez. Both teams performed exceptionally well, gaining valuable competition experience. The boys' team secured an impressive third place in their category, while the girls, despite their best efforts, did not advance past the group stages.

Simultaneously, our senior volleyball teams traveled to the American International School of South Africa to take part in a tournament. Both teams showed great skill, making it to the quarterfinals before being knocked out of the competition.

Back home, we hosted a rugby tournament where our Under-17 boys' team triumphed, winning both of their matches against neighboring schools.

A huge gratitude to all the players and coaches for representing us with such dedication and sportsmanship.



SPRING AND ALLERGIES

By the School Nurse

Spring is a vibrant season, bursting with life, as colorful flowers bloom and lush green grass grows under the bright sun. This lively season often lifts our spirits, as the sunny, colorful environment can have a positive impact on our mental well-being. However, Spring also brings challenges for our physical health, particularly due to the increase in pollen levels, which can trigger allergic reactions in some individuals.

Common allergic reactions during this season include itchy rashes, sneezing, runny noses, nosebleeds, coughing, and in more severe cases, asthmatic attacks. It is essential for caregivers and students to take necessary precautions to minimize the effects of pollen exposure. These precautions include:

- Taking antihistamines as prescribed by a healthcare professional
- Practicing good personal hygiene to remove allergens from the skin and clothing
- Staying hydrated
- Ensuring asthmatic students always have their inhalers/pumps with them

It is also important for students with asthma to inform the adults around them about their condition, so they can be prepared to respond in case of an attack or emergency.

By taking these simple steps, we can all enjoy the beauty of Spring while keeping ourselves safe and healthy.



IMPORTANT DATES

- 11 October: Half Term starts
- 15 October: Half Term ends
- 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