



SAIPS' Nkhani

NEWSLETTER

13-02-26

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We hope you enjoyed our first 'William Kamkwamba STEM & Life Skills Exhibition' today and other events this week, which provided students with valuable hands-on learning experiences and real-world competencies. We are very grateful to our Guest of Honour, Board as well as to parents, friends and families for their support and most importantly our students.

We are also pleased to share that we have become members of UK's 'Safer Internet Day'. This initiative offers additional guidance and resources for staff and parents to support children at home and help keep them safe online.

Recently, I discussed language provision across different countries. Many international schools require students to study the host country's language. For example, in China, students in private international schools study Mandarin. Similarly, private international schools in the UAE require students to study Arabic. The philosophy behind this approach is to promote and preserve local language and culture.

In the African context, Kiswahili is spoken across many countries. Learning Kiswahili can open doors to regional collaboration and future business opportunities. The International Baccalaureate has now included Kiswahili in its curriculum. According to the IBO, *adding a language spoken by over 80 million people in East and Central Africa supports the IB's mission to promote international-mindedness, understanding and respect.* SAIPS' initiative to introduce the prestigious French DELF exam and to also offer Mandarin will strengthen our children's language skills from a younger age, helping to make them future-ready.

The future of Africa is characterised by rapid demographic growth, with *one in four people globally projected to be African by 2050*, when our current Reception children will be around 28 years. The continent is expected to experience growth rates that exceed those of some Asian countries. Language skills will be key to communication, career success and global business opportunities.

Research suggests that over the next 14 years (by around 2040 when our Reception students will be around 19), the job market will be significantly transformed by artificial intelligence, sustainability initiatives and an ageing population. Success in this new era will depend on lifelong learning and continuous upskilling (creativity, Emotional Intelligence and Strategic thinking and empathy) .

Our first STEM & Life Skills Week and developing our own AI Assistant, is a timely and much-needed initiative to strengthen these essential skills in our students. It is vital for schools to look ahead and begin preparing children now to be future-ready.

During a recent staff training at SAIPS, we discussed Miller's Law, which reminds us that children can only hold about *5 to 9 pieces of information* in their working memory at one time. Parents can support learning at home by breaking tasks or instructions into small, manageable steps rather than giving too many directions at once.

Encouraging your child to focus on one idea at a time, using checklists, short revision sessions, and simple routines can greatly improve understanding, confidence, and retention. Small, well-repeated chunks lead to deeper learning.

- **Half-Term Break:** The school will be closed from Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026 for a well-deserved half-term break for students and staff.
- We will reopen on Monday 23 February 2026, marking the start of Term 2B.

During the half-term break, the Muslim holy month of Ramadan will begin and the Lenten season will also commence. We send our prayers and best wishes to those observing these holy events.

I would like to thank our team for a very energising half term, to the many parents who joined us in January, welcome again and to all parents for your trust, support and encouragement to me and my team. Your children are our responsibility and it is a privilege to work with them.

Finally, I wish everyone a blessed weekend, warm greetings to our Muslim families and happy holidays.

Warm regards,

Akif Naqvi, FCCT
Headteacher

SAIPS MUD RUN



THIS WEEK



We are deeply grateful to the Honourable Mr Noel Chalamanda, our Chief Guest and parent, for officially opening our first **William Kamkwamba STEM & Life Skills Exhibition**.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our students, guests, parents, partners and supporters who participated in and contributed to making this first exhibition at SAIPS such a memorable success. Your involvement, encouragement and collaboration truly made the event special.

It was a wonderful Friday filled with innovation, creativity and inspiration, as our pupils proudly showcased technology and robotics alongside members of our wider community. To name just a few highlights, we were delighted to welcome a student from St Patrick's School, who demonstrated impressive coding skills alongside SAIPS students, a positive sign of growing inter-school collaboration. The exhibition featured drones, agricultural and farming equipment, vehicle maintenance lessons, car diagnostics,

St. Andrew's International Primary School

FIRST WILLIAM KAMKWAMBA STEM & LIFE SKILLS EXHIBITION

FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2026

VENUE: SAIPS HALL | TIME: 7 AM - 1 PM

- ✓ AI & ROBOTICS
- ✓ NETWORKING & DIAGNOSIS
- ✓ CODING & PROGRAMMING
- ✓ GAME & WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ ENGINEERING
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3D printing experiences, VR, Windmills, STEM projects developed by our pupils, gaming and coding experiences and video editing presented by our students. Our children also demonstrated practical life skills, including plumbing, vehicle maintenance, carpentry and electrical work. There was even a repair stall where mobile phones, kettles, toasters and irons were fixed, an excellent example of hands-on learning in action.

We were also privileged to host talented university students who showcased innovative projects, including a cooking stove powered by briquettes that generates charging points, a robot designed for room sanitisation, and automated bins that separate various items for recycling.

The programme concluded with an exciting session on drones used to deliver essential medicines, food and other supplies to remote areas. Students then had the opportunity to enjoy a hands-on experience flying drones themselves.

It was truly an inspiring event that celebrated creativity, problem-solving and real-world learning at SAIPS.

ACHIEVEMENTS



STAR OF THE WEEK

This week's Star of the Week has shone brightly through their dedication, kindness, and positive spirit in class. Keep up the amazing work!



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

This week's Athlete of the Week has shone brightly through their dedication, teamwork, and positive spirit in sports. Keep up the amazing work!



BIRTHDAYS

This week's Birthday Star has shone brightly with joy, smiles, and celebration. Wishing you a fantastic day filled with laughter and happiness keep shining!

Class news

TODDLER

Our Terrific Toddlers enjoyed a garden adventure, watering plants and learning that living things need love, water, and sunshine to grow.



PRE- NURSERY D

What an exciting time in our Pre-Nursery! We explored farm trucks, met a duck, made our egg sandwiches, and welcomed a baby goat while learning baby animal names.



RECEPTION

Happy Valentines Day! Reception enjoyed baking and decorating Valentines Day cookies.



BUMBLEBEE-NURSERY

In Science, we've started our new topic on Sound. The children explored how sound travels through hands-on experiments using drums and xylophones, really enjoying the learning experience.



YEAR 2

Year 2 learned about scientists and inventions, discovering that doctors use science to help people. They enjoyed a visit from Dr Gadama, explored real medical equipment, and became mini doctors for the day



Class news

YEAR 3



In Science, we began our exciting new topic on Sound. The children explored how sound travels through different materials and objects, using instruments like drums and xylophones to make their own sounds. They enjoyed experimenting with volume, pitch, and rhythm, making the learning experience both fun and hands-on.

YEAR 4



What a brilliant start to the term for the Fantastic Fours! Our key text has taken us on exciting writing adventures and explorations of Norway 🇳🇴, inspiring some fantastic creativity and curiosity along the way. We are incredibly proud of their hard work in Maths, where they have confidently tackled fractions and measurement challenges.

YEAR 6 CAMPING





Malawi Polio Vaccination Drive at SAIPS

We would like to inform parents that a Malawi Government Polio Vaccination Drive will take place at SAIPS on Tuesday, 24th February at 12:00pm (TBC).

This initiative forms part of the national vaccination campaign to protect children against polio. Parents will have the opportunity to have their children vaccinated on site during the visit.

While the school is facilitating this opportunity in partnership with the health authorities, we kindly remind parents that participation is voluntary and remains the responsibility of each family.

Further details will be shared by the school once the time is confirmed.



Mr Moses Banda (a parent) from One Hope Organisation donated 100 plants to St Andrew's as part of his sustainability mission.

On behalf of SAIPS, we would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mr Moses Banda for his generous contribution.



LEADER IN ME

Mohammed Faris Osman – Year 3M Ariana Tamadikani Mchuchu – Year 3M

We were delighted to host another inspiring Leader in Me interview with two thoughtful and ambitious members of Year 3M. **Ariana**, whose name means “a holy person”, answered each question with care and quiet wisdom. **Faris**, whose name means “a knight”, certainly lives up to it, sharing bold aspirations to make a difference in the automotive industry, inspired by his parents.

What does it mean to be a leader?

Faris reflected that a leader is someone who stands up for others, does not give up on doing the right thing, and has the courage to stand against bullying.

Ariana described a leader as someone who is there for people when they are in need a simple yet powerful definition centred on compassion and service.

What do you want to become when you grow up?

Faris shared his ambition to become an engineer, designing and selling cars, inspired by his father. Alongside this, he spoke enthusiastically about wanting to be like a ninja inspired by the Ninjago programme not to use weapons, but to develop agility, fitness and the ability to help others and stand up to wrongdoing.

Ariana expressed her desire to become a doctor like her grandfather, motivated by a wish to help people stay healthy and well.

If you were given one wish, what would it be?

Faris demonstrated strong environmental awareness, explaining that he would want people to stop destroying animal habitats and harming the environment. In his imaginative way, he suggested he would “hypnotise” people so they would choose to protect the planet instead.

Similarly, Ariana spoke passionately about protecting the Earth, particularly by preventing harmful chemicals sprayed on crops from damaging other plants and the wider environment.



Do you want to invent something?

Faris would like to create a nano-technology suit to protect humans, a creative idea that combines science, innovation and care for others.

Ariana hopes to invent her own robot, inspired by the robotics learning taking place at school. She also shared her dream of building a hospital one day.

How is school for you?

Faris spoke warmly about his enjoyment of school and suggested that more benches in the outdoor snack areas would make break times even better.

Ariana described the school as amazing, sharing that she has made many friends and appreciates her teachers. She said she loves everything about school.

Favourite things

Faris’s favourite colours are black, blue, purple and pink. He enjoys prawn biryani, lasagne and crème brûlée.

Ariana’s favourite colours are pink and yellow. Her favourite foods include pizza, lasagne, fried sandwiches made using her father’s special recipe, pancakes and vanilla ice cream.

A Question for Mr Naqvi

When asked whether he had always wanted to become a headteacher, Mr Naqvi reflected that, as a child, school environments were often very strict and sometimes children were punished unfairly. This inspired him to become a teacher and later a headteacher to help create a more positive educational experience, one where children are creative, confident, resilient and well prepared for the future. He shared how proud he is to be able to live out that vision at SAIPS.

To conclude the interview on a lively note, both Faris and Ariana had the opportunity to try Mr Naqvi’s punching bag using his old boxing gloves. They showed enthusiasm, determination and impressive energy, a fitting reminder that leadership is not only about words, but also about confidence and action.

We look forward to seeing how these two young leaders continue to grow and inspire others.





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