



St. Andrew's
International
Primary School

SAIP's Nkhani

NEWSLETTER

16-01-26

Dear parents, guardians, students, staff and community members,

Welcome to our first Newsletter SAIPS's Nkhani of Term 2

I would like to share a very interesting website that I follow, *A vibrant celebration of creativity, nature, and growth.* , which provides live data on various global events. I want to begin by sharing a statistic that makes me feel very fortunate: according to their data, 673 million people go hungry every day. If we had at least one meal today, we are luckier than 673 million others.

Our Early Years team recently organised a wonderful school-linking live meeting with a school in Japan. Our children and staff interacted with their counterparts, which was a fantastic experience. We look forward to continuing this international exposure to broaden our students' horizons.

We will soon begin the GL Assessment CAT4 and NGRT. Following an informative online live UK training session this week, our staff are now better equipped to understand the cognitive abilities of our students. This allows us to teach differentiated lesson to cater to each student's unique needs. The NGRT assessment will provide the reading ages of our children, helping our teachers to plan lessons based on their specific comprehension levels. These assessments (pioneering in Malawi) are part of a series of international yearly assessments we are introducing at SAIPS. This ensures we have year-on-year data and allows parents to see our school's standing on an international scale.

We are pleased to welcome more new families to SAIPS this term, which is an exciting occurrence for this time of year in any international school. Due to increased class sizes, we are working on splitting our Year 4 class. Initially, we will utilise internal talent to cover lessons temporarily while we recruit qualified, experienced and high-achieving teachers from within Malawi and abroad. If any parents know of exceptional candidates who would like to join our high-flying SAIPS bus, please share their profiles with the school office.

Our new unique SAIPS Curriculum Map is based on the UK National Curriculum but incorporates global best practices, life skills, Robotics, AI and Global and Malawian Citizenship. In line with high-performing international schools, we review our curriculum continuously. We are also looking to add Mandarin and Chichewa to our offerings to ensure our students remain competitive.

Our After-School Enrichment Programme (ASEP) has started well with several new skill-based STEAM clubs. We hope that through these activities, our children will learn both traditional and modern skills, better equipping them for the challenges of a fast-paced, unpredictable future.

I recognise the sacrifices our parents make and the value you place on education. This is evident in our growing boarding community, including students from neighbouring countries. For our Year 6 parents currently considering secondary school options, I suggest looking at the demands of the job market and global business 10 years from now. A great primary education prepares children for their first global exams, such as IGCSEs, by "Beginning with the End in Mind" (Stephen Covey's 2nd Habit). When choosing a school, please inquire about their secondary results and global standing to ensure they meet the academic and pastoral standards you desire for your child's future.

A huge congratulations to our students for their recent achievements in friendly sports events with a visiting school! It was wonderful to see the team spirit and sportsmanship displayed by everyone. Our strong PE team is currently exploring more opportunities for healthy competition with other schools across the country.

Thank you to the Year 6 parents who attended the presentation by Mrs Phillips and the Year 6 team regarding excursion trips to South Africa, the UK and within Malawi. If you could not attend, please contact your class teacher. These excursions offer life-changing experiences for our students.

I am also grateful for a parent's suggestion to market SAIPS as a venue for excursions for other international schools. This is a wonderful way to also promote not just SAIPS but the beauty of Malawi, and shows the deep trust our community has in us.

We are always looking to support our community. If you would like to promote your business in our newsletter, please reach out. Additionally, we are looking to secure the best possible rates for school supplies; if you offer procurement options through your business, please leave your contact details with the office.

I am proud of my team, grateful to our parents for their trust, and thankful to the Board for their vision. As I always say, not a day goes by without my team and students giving me a reason to be proud. This week, I witnessed a student greeting one of our cleaning staff with such politeness and respect. It is moments like these that truly define our school culture.

I wish you all a happy and restful weekend. Blessings to everyone, and Jumma Mubarak to our Muslim families.

Kind regards,

Akif Naqvi.
Headteacher

SAIPS NEWS

MORNING TUNES AND TREATS

We hope you enjoyed the new morning musical tunes provided by our Music team. Parents are welcome to join in to sing, play an instrument, or just have a good laugh!



A Pioneering Step: Our School Joins UK Network with New GL Assessments

As part of our continuing professional development, all staff completed a UK-based online training session on Tuesday, 13 January. The training focused on our new GL Assessments: CAT4 and NGRT, which will provide valuable data on student ability and reading ages.

This invaluable information will support teachers and parents in identifying ways to further improve student outcomes. Furthermore, using these assessments allows us to join a network of UK international schools for benchmarking and positions our school as a pioneer in implementing such standardized assessments in Malawi.

ICT NEWS: ROBOTICS AND AI

Please see the robot designs built by our students. We will now begin working on programming and using AI to create the code to bring them to life.



EVENT **TERM 2** SCHEDULE

DATES TO NOTE:

23

JANUARY

INTERNATIONAL
DAY



30

JANUARY

BMIS
SWIMMING GALA
LILONGWE



07

FEBRUARY

SAIPS MUD
RUN



13

FEBRUARY

SPECIALIST IT &
AI CLASS
ASSEMBLY



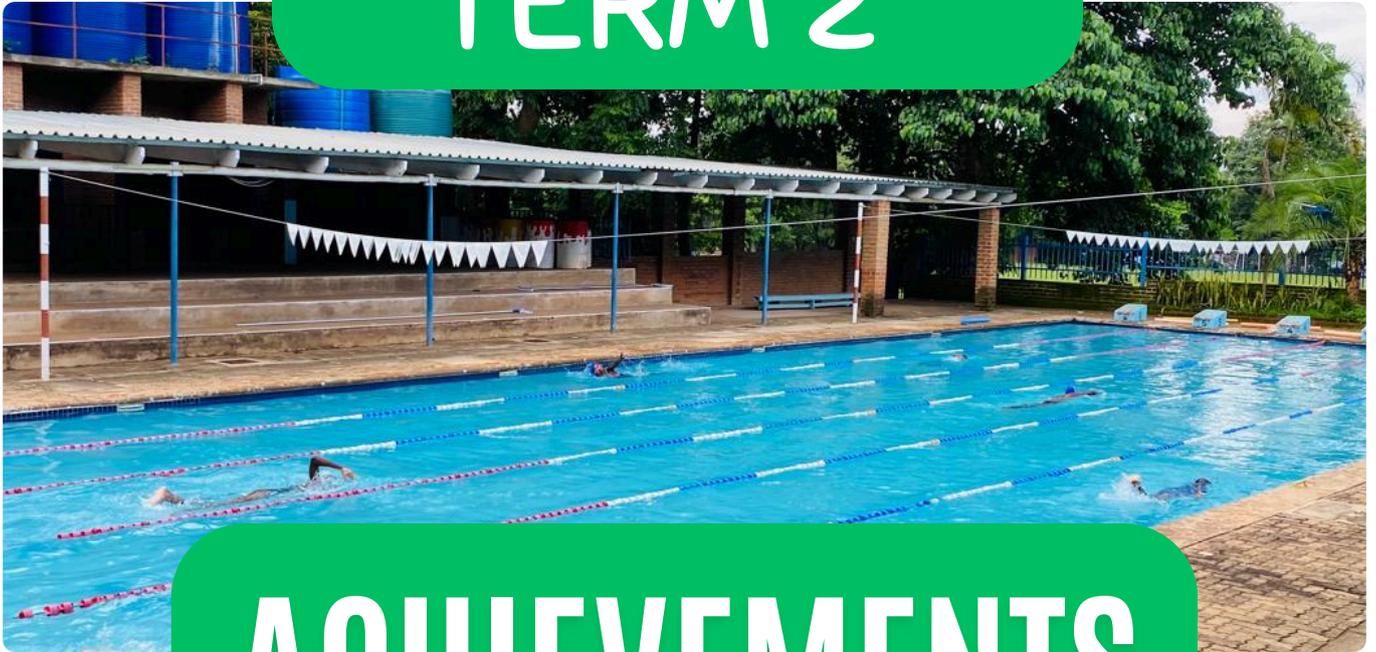
16-
20

FEBRUARY

MID - TERM
HOLIDAY



TERM 2



ACHIEVEMENTS



STAR OF THE WEEK

This week's Star of the Week is being celebrated for their hard work, kindness, and positive attitude in class. Well done!



ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

This week's Athlete of the Week is recognised for their effort, determination, and excellent sportsmanship during PE and games. Well done!



BIRTHDAYS

This week, we celebrate the birthdays of our special friends! Wishing you a fun-filled day full of laughter, cake, and happiness. Happy Birthday!



Class news

TODDLER

Our Terrific Toddlers have started the term with the fun and engaging topic of Toys. We are learning about different toys in our classroom, how to play with them safely, and how to share and take turns with our friends. The children are also enjoying exploring how toys work and will even be making some of their favourite toys. This week, we especially loved creating our own teddy bears inspired by the story *Where Is My Teddy?* by Jez Alborough –such a joyful start to the term filled with creativity and play!

PRE – NURSERY

This term, the class has been exploring the topic “On the Farm.” The children have shown curiosity and enthusiasm while learning about farm animals, including observing and caring for a chicken and now a tortoise. In art, they have created handprint chickens and painted pig headbands, developing creativity, fine motor skills, and imaginative play. These hands-on activities help build knowledge of farm animals, encourage responsibility, and foster confidence through real-life learning experiences.



NURSERY G

Nursery has had a fantastic start to the term with the theme “Things That Go.” Through engaging stories, the children have explored different journeys, especially the excitement of flying. In phonics, they are practising listening for initial sounds and enjoying playful alliteration, while in maths they are learning about 2D and 3D shapes found in everyday vehicles. In the construction area, creativity has soared as the children worked together to build their own airplanes.



Class news

Bumble-bee Nursery

International School with International Connections. Celebrating the world we live in. Our Nursery classes are learning about transport, past, present and future. Taking inspiration from our story book Emma Jane's Airplane as she travels around the world seeing new cities, making new friends and enjoying new cultures. and we wanted to do the same. We had a video call with Kohana International School in Japan and asked them lots of questions to learn all about their school, interests, food and dance. We shared our Malawian National Anthem in English and Chichewa along with lots of information about our super school SAIPS.





Class news

Newsletter

RECEPTION

In Reception, we have been exploring our outdoor area and Forest School. We have been using our senses to observe seasonal changes and develop a deeper connection with nature. We've also been learning about the wider world through stories, discussions, and hands-on activities that spark curiosity and build understanding of different people and places.

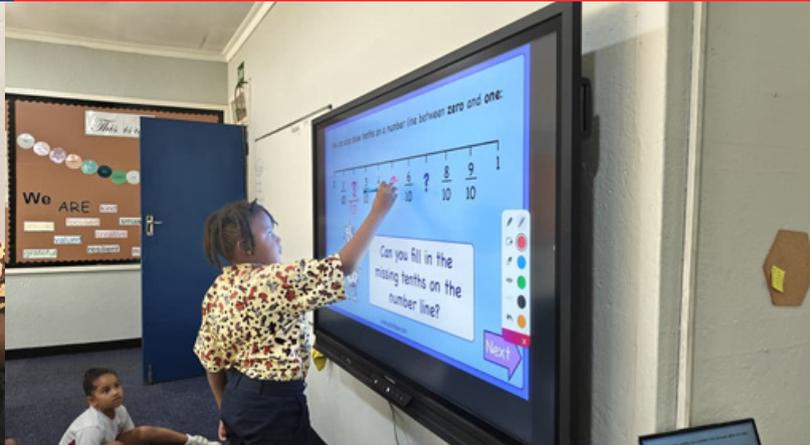
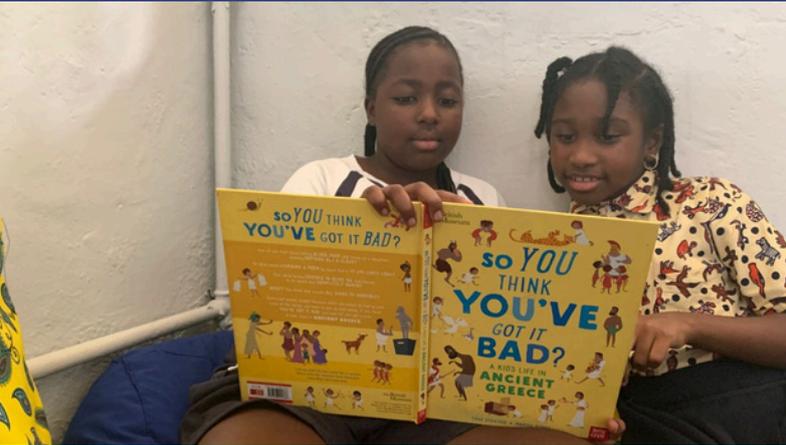
YEAR 2

It has been fantastic welcoming the children back into class, full of smiles, stories, and enthusiasm for learning. We are also excited to see our Year 2 family growing as we welcome five new friends to the class. Learning is already in full flow, and it has been a joy to see the children confidently applying their Term 1 learning and working more independently. We have begun exploring the dramatic events of the Great Fire of London and are also diving into the exciting world of British money! The children stepped into the role of young botanists, observing and sketching the wonderful plants around us an engaging and busy start to the term ahead!



YEAR 1

Year 1 have made a wonderful start to the term, settling in confidently and showing great enthusiasm for learning. The children have been actively involved in a range of hands-on activities that support their development across the curriculum, helping them build key skills in a fun and meaningful way. They are learning to work both independently and collaboratively, showing growing confidence, curiosity, and creativity in the classroom.



Class news

Newsletter

YEAR 3

The children are enjoying practical learning across the curriculum. In Mathematics, they are exploring fractions through hands-on activities, building confidence and understanding. In Topic lessons, they have begun *The Wild Way Home* and are engaging thoughtfully with the story and its characters. We continue to focus on handwriting skills, while in Geography the children are learning about African countries and key facts about the continent.

YEAR 4

Year 4 have made a strong and enthusiastic start to the term. The children are engaging well across the curriculum, showing curiosity and confidence in their learning. Through a range of interactive lessons, they are developing key skills in reading, writing, and mathematics, while also deepening their understanding in foundation subjects. They are working collaboratively, thinking critically, and demonstrating a positive attitude towards learning, which has been wonderful to see.



YEAR 5

We successfully held our first Show and Tell session, where the first six students confidently shared presentations about their families and performed very well. Each child received two positive points and one area for improvement at the end of their talk. Next week, Group 2 will take the stage to present on their favourite animal.



Excursions: South Africa, Malawi and the UK Summer Exchange Programme

Year 6

We are very grateful to the Year 6 parents who took the time to attend the recent session regarding our residential trip and summer camp experiences. The meeting provided an opportunity to share important information, answer questions, and outline how these experiences will support our students' personal development, independence, teamwork, and confidence. Both the residential and summer camp are carefully planned to be enriching, memorable, and enjoyable, offering valuable learning beyond the classroom. Parents who would like further details or were unable to attend the session are warmly encouraged to contact Mrs. Phillips or the Year 6 teaching team for more information.



Year 6 Class Update:

Year 6 have made a strong start to the term, demonstrating maturity, focus, and a positive attitude towards learning. The students are engaging well across the curriculum, working collaboratively, and showing growing independence as they prepare for the next stage of their educational journey.





St. Andrew's
International
Primary School

Year 6 tuck-shop

"Snack & Support Us!"



Fri day 23rd Jan 2026
Break time





Congratulations to our students for winning and drawing their friendly matches against Phoenix School. More than just a victory, it was a great example of team spirit, sportsmanship, and fun.

CPD – A PIONEERING STEP: OUR SCHOOL JOINS UK NETWORK WITH NEW GL ASSESSMENTS

As part of our continuing professional development, all staff completed a UK-based online training session on Tuesday, 13 January. The training focused on our new GL Assessments: CAT4 and NGRT, which will provide valuable data on student ability and reading ages. This invaluable information will support teachers and parents in identifying ways to further improve student outcomes. Furthermore, using these assessments allows us to join a network of UK international schools for benchmarking and positions our school as a pioneer in implementing such standardised assessments in Malawi.

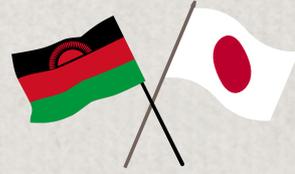
 **GL
Assessment**®



[Join Now](#)

SAIPS MEET KOHANA JAPAN



Next Stop: Your Dream Destination!

This week, our Early Years students and staff at SAIPS Malawi took part in a live virtual meeting with students and teachers from Kohana Japan. This meaningful session provided a rich opportunity for global linking and cultural exchange, allowing our learners to connect with peers from another part of the world. The children were excited to see a different classroom environment, learn about daily routines in Japan, and share smiles and greetings across borders.



**St. Andrew's International
Primary School**



KOHANA
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
PASSION • CREATIVITY • VALUES

Escape the Ordinary – See the Extraordinary

During the meeting, students and staff engaged in warm conversations that encouraged curiosity, confidence, and communication. The experience helped the children recognise both similarities and differences between cultures, fostering respect and openness from an early age. Activities like this play an important role in developing global awareness and helping our learners understand that they are part of a wider, connected world.





NEWS FROM THE SITES TEAM: *The Magic Behind Our Walls*

What We Do

- Carpentry: We repair our wooden furniture and build new spaces for you to learn and play.
- Electrical: We make sure the power flows safely so your classrooms stay bright and your computers keep running.
- Maintenance: From fixing a leaky pipe to painting a fresh wall, mowing the grass, cutting the trees, cleaning the premises, we make sure the school looks its best.

Have you ever wondered how the lights turn on with a click, how the water reaches the taps, or who built the sturdy desks you sit at every day? That is the work of the SAIPS SITES Team!

Our team of builders, carpenters, electricians, and maintenance experts works hard behind the scenes to keep SAIPS safe, strong, and beautiful. Here is what we have been up to lately and how you can be a junior engineer, too!

Meet Isiah

We hope you have appreciated the garden landscaping work done by our staff member, Isiah



Lessons for Our Students: Building and fixing things takes a lot of care. Here are three things the SITES team wants to share with you:

1. **Respect Your Tools & Space:** Just like a carpenter looks after his saw, we should all look after our school. When we treat our desks, doors, and walls with care, they last a lifetime!
2. **Safety First:** If you see something broken, a loose wire, or a "Work in Progress" sign, remember to stay back and tell a teacher. Helping us stay safe is the most important job of all.
3. **The Power of Fixing:** Instead of throwing things away, we try to fix them! It's better for our planet to repair a chair than to buy a new one.

We love keeping your school running smoothly.

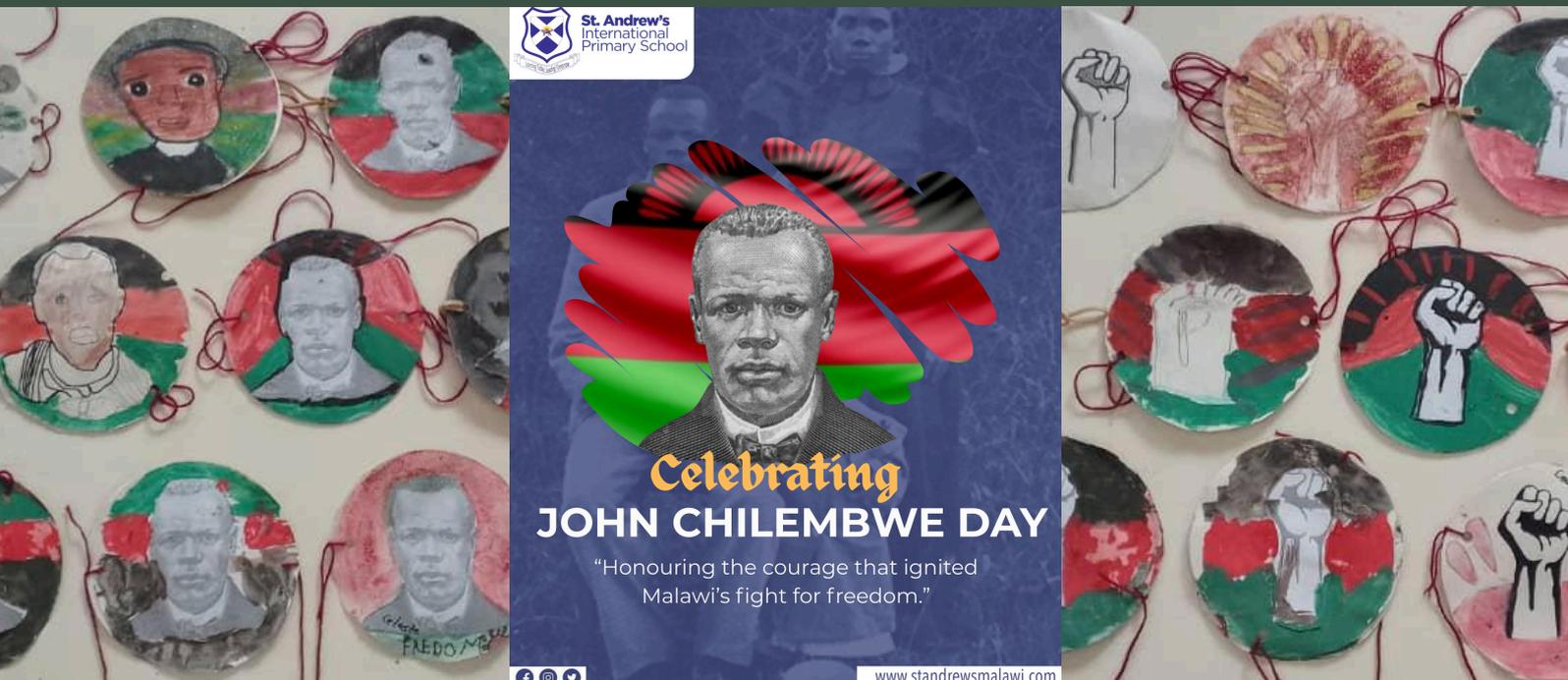
A New Addition to Our Farm We are delighted to share that our farm has a new addition—a tortoise—kindly donated by one of our alumni after it was found lost.



HAPPY JOHN CHILEMBWE DAY



We wish you a happy John Chilembwe Day. Please take a look at some of the wonderful artwork created by our students to mark the occasion.





ST ANDREW'S INTERNATIONAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Joaqim Chisano Road, Sunnyside, Blantyre. Po Box 593, Blantyre, Malawi

+265 999 970 998 / +265 999 970 999

Empowering future leaders (14 months-11 years) with authentic British & International education in our day and boarding school.



ADMISSION IS OPEN

Enrol Early and Save!!!

We nurture independent learners through academic rigour, creativity, IT and AI, farming, forest school, sports, swimming, after-school clubs, inclusive learning experiences, global awareness, 21st-century skills-shaping confident and resilient global citizens.

EARLY BIRD

- 10 Percent saving for early enrolment for **2026/2027** Academic Year.

Family Enrollment Offer

- 10 Percent saving on fees for third or more enrolments, **Jan 2026**.

2026 JAN REGISTRATION SAVING

- No registration fee if registered by Monday **8th December 2025**.

REGISTER NOW

admin@standrewsmalawi.com

www.standrewsmalawi.com