



Celebrating 60 Years

Spirit of The Banda

Friday 26th September 2025

A WORD FROM THE HEADMASTER

It was great to welcome Jon Taylor back to The Banda earlier this week. Jon is an expert on all things to do with online safety and his hard-hitting but excellent and extremely relevant talks to both groups of pupils and parents. We will share his slides with you all in due course and I highly recommend looking through them if you were unable to attend the talk. Please do look out for future parent talks and workshops as we look to strengthen the bond between school and home, and provide you with up-to-date guidance on vital parenting matters.

With term now very much in full swing, the usual plethora of activities have been taking place, including a Year 7 trip to Malewa and a team of pupils taking on the challenge of the Badminton Speech and Drama Competition.

This weekend sees the first cricket tournament of the term as our girls and boys first teams compete at the Peponi T10; whilst our golfers take to the course on Monday at Pembroke's Stowe Putter. The very best of luck to everyone taking part.

James Moss-Gibbons



See Week 5 events overleaf

Follow us on:



**Stop asking
"How was your day?"**

**Have any of your
classmates ever asked
a question that your
teacher couldn't
answer?**



The Banda School

Word OF THE Week

Surge

*A sudden strong forward or
upward movement.*

CHALLENGE: ADD THIS WORD TO YOUR WRITING THIS WEEK!

PENN'S POST

Hello Everyone,

You have all been back at school for a few weeks now, and I hope the new term has started well and all the new pupils have settled in happily and are enjoying life at the Banda.

Here in England, it is well and truly Autumn. The weather has changed, with some beautiful bright, crisp, sunny days as well as a fair amount of rain. The one thing I love about England are the seasons and how you can really feel the difference in the air, as you transition from Summer to Autumn.

This time of year makes me think about the poem by John Keats which celebrates the coming of Autumn and the harvest, here it is for you to read.



**"Season of mists and mellow
fruitfulness, Close bosom-friend of the
maturing sun; Conspiring with him
how to load and bless With fruit the
vines that round the thatch-eves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd
cottage-trees, And fill all fruit with
ripeness to the core; To swell the
gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding
more, And still more, later flowers for
the bees, Until they think warm days
will never cease, For Summer has
o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells."**

~ JOHN KEATS

Here are some photographs to help you understand what is meant by 'mellow fruitfulness.' I took these photographs when I was visiting Suffolk recently.



Damsons



Plums



Almonds



Apples



Quince



Pears

Yours, Penn

Penelope Kirk – Education Consultant to The Banda

WHOLE SCHOOL TARGET: LITERACY



One of our targets for this academic year is to highlight the importance of literacy skills across all aspects of the curriculum and raise the standard in all pieces of written work. We are delighted that our Nursery 2 and Reception pupils have joined in after they were issued with their library codes enabling them to borrow story books from the Early Years Library. This is Pegasus' first small step in contributing to the whole school target (reading for pleasure) and the children are LOVING it!





3RD MSFK ENDURO

Last weekend, a number of Banda children took part in the 3rd MSFK Enduro held at the Kereita Forest. Fred in Year 3 won in the JC1 category; his third win in the championship while his classmate Benito finished 3rd in the JC 0.5 category. Mariella and Amber, both in Year 7 finished in 5th and 6th position respectively, in the JC2 Category. A very well done to all!

FLIGHT

The first set of FLIGHT activities are underway on Friday afternoons. Pupils from Year 3-8 are engaging in a series of different sessions covering: **Future Learning | Life lessons | Inspiring Others | Grasping new Skills | Harnessing passions | Train and Play**. Pupils are thriving in activities such as baking, karaoke, bush craft, fly fishing, dissections and many more. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to try new things and broaden their learning outside of the classroom.





EXTRAS

It is great to see children enjoying all the Extra Curricular activities on offer. There were curious, hard working and happy faces all week whether enjoying some squad football with Mr. Roberts and Mrs. Simiyu working on their first touch and passing. The U11s had squad football with Mr. Walsh and Mrs. Abbonizio. Our golfers were working on their swing paths and foot position. Swim squads were also out in force, building up their fitness, and strokes.



BADMINTON TROPHY

On Thursday 25th September a team of ten amazing pupils from The Banda, went to Hillcrest School to compete in the Badminton Trophy Drama Competition. The competition is a very fun but challenging experience for our pupils. They must create a piece of original drama based on a theme word, with minimal input from the teacher. Our team did exceptionally well, including many interesting ideas for the theme word 'Challenge'. Although on this occasion we didn't win the trophy, we gained so much knowledge and worked so well as a team. The pupils were a credit to the school, and made me very proud.

Ms K McDonald





YEAR 8

Year 8 Accelerated pupils are using a website from The University of Waterloo CEMC to tackle problems such as:

The positive factors of 6 are 1, 2, 3 and 6. There are 2 perfect squares less than 100 that have exactly 5 positive factors. What is the sum of these 2 perfect squares?

A) 177 B) 80 C) 145 D) 52 E) 97

Good luck, no pressure - you have 90 seconds to answer it.

In May 2026 we can hopefully enter these pupils for an International Maths Contest - Gauss used world wide.



Year 8 Design and Technology pupils have kicked off their Mood Lamp project, diving into an exciting exploration of materials and craftsmanship. To create a sturdy foundation, pupils are using cement for the lamp's base, carefully balancing the right ratio of sand and cement to ensure durability. Alongside this, they've begun cutting support pieces from softwood, preparing to cut joints that will allow for the lamp to be adjusted. It's an excellent opportunity for pupils to hone their skills in both material handling and design.





YEAR 7

On Monday, the whole of Year 7 set off for an exciting three-day adventure at Malewa Bush Camp. The aim of the trip was to develop leadership, resilience, and teamwork skills while enjoying the outdoors together.

When they arrived, pupils worked hard to set up their campsite and organise their tents before beginning a challenging programme of activities. The entire year group set off on a gorge walk, where the year group hiked through forest and rocks before reaching the top of the gorge. There, they swam in the very cold pool at the top, before hiking down for the afternoon activities.

They completed a raft building challenge, which required teamwork and problem-solving, as well as a high ropes course, where pupils tested their courage and supported each other as they faced their fears. Back at camp, the Malewa team set a variety of leadership challenges that were both tricky and entertaining, encouraging pupils to think creatively, step up to lead, and work effectively as a team.

On both evenings, we had lots of fun around the campfire. Pupils performed skits and funny impressions of staff, which had the whole group laughing. Of course, marshmallow toasting was an essential highlight. Mr DeWet even gave a demonstration of the "perfect marshmallow," and performed the hilarious 'Sleep Dance' which seemed to work on both evenings!

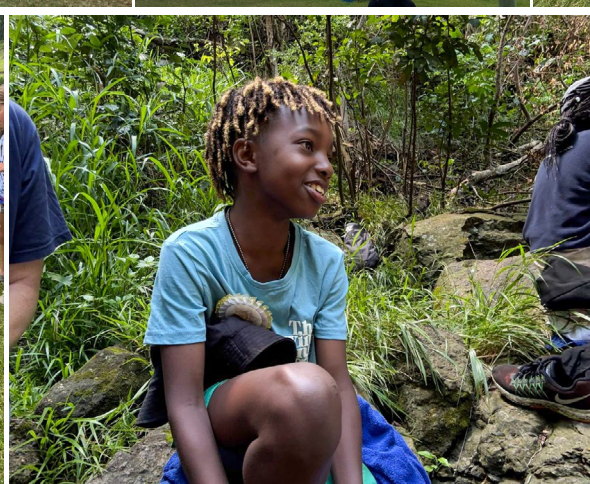
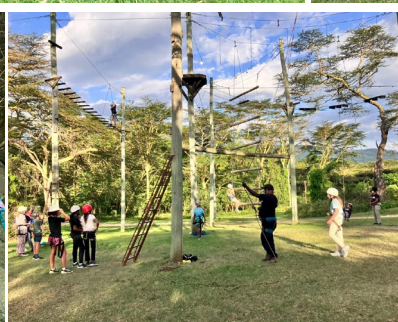
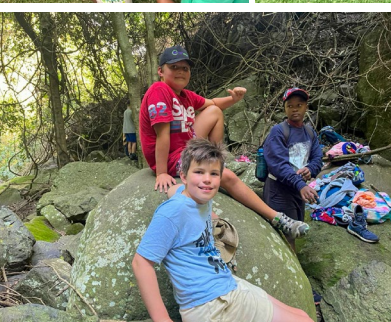
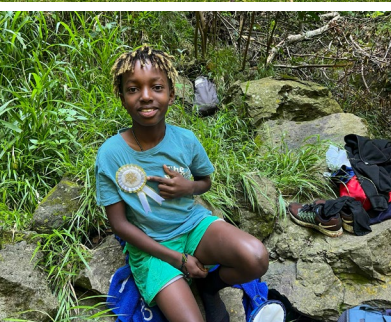
Year 7 were brilliant, and all of the teachers had a fantastic time getting to know them better outside the classroom. It was a memorable trip filled with laughter, challenges, and fantastic achievements. We are already looking forward to our next camping adventure in the summer term!

"I loved spending time with my friends and doing plays around the campfire." Isla
"When the whole of Group 2 was 'aura farming' and tried to teach Mrs Bunting, she performed it at the campfire." Ayush

"I had a great time on the trip. Building the raft and swimming in the river was my favourite part." Arian

"I learned to overcome my fears on the highropes." Bea

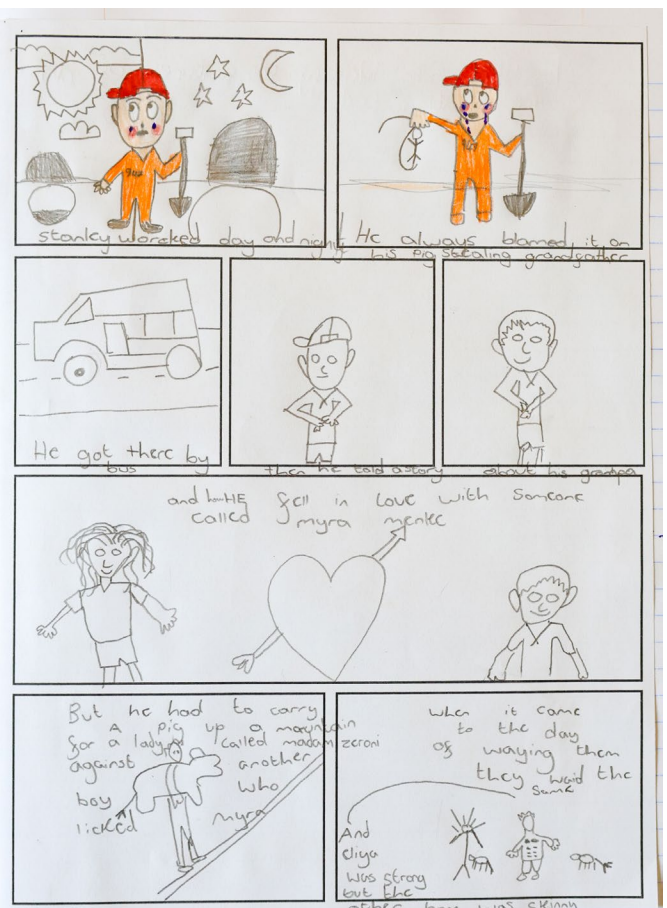
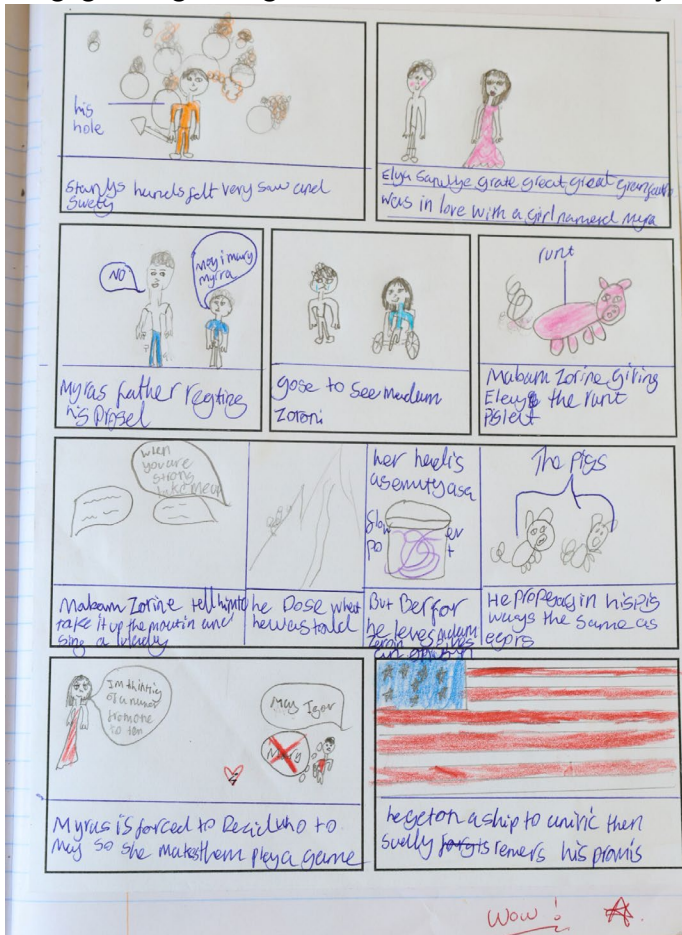






YEAR 6

Year 6 is reading Holes by Louis Sachar (Mrs Haywood's favourite novel, by the way...). Using storyboards, Year 6 pupils have illustrated and summarised Chapter 7 in Holes. This chapter uses a technique called a story-within-a-story and as Stanley Yelnat's digs his first hole at Camp Green Lake, he remembers the story that led to the curse of his no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather in Latvia many years before.



YEAR 5

Last Week the Year 5's had their first Upper School trip. They went to Acacia Camp at Swara Plains. The trip was a great opportunity for the children to develop their independence, resilience, and collaboration skills in a new environment. After settling into their rooms, the trip started with some teamwork games, where they had to communicate effectively and work together to solve challenges. It was wonderful to see their communication and collaboration skills improve as time went on. Following the games, the children enjoyed splashing around and cooling off in the lodge pool and using the playground area and bikes.

In the evening, the children set off on a nature walk, where they had the chance to see some wildlife. They spotted giraffes, impalas, warthogs and an ostrich. The walk also involved a visit to a dam where they enjoyed throwing stones and mud into the water. After a buffet meal at the lodge, the evening was spent around the campfire telling stories and eating marshmallows.

The next morning the children's creativity and problem-solving skills were on full display during the den-making challenge. Working in small groups, they used materials they found to construct some truly impressive dens. The final structures were a testament to their hard work and teamwork.

They came back having learned valuable lessons about independence, resilience and cooperation, skills we hope they will continue to develop and carry forward in their time in the Upper School.





Word OF THE Week

JUNIOR

Pensive
Deep in a serious or thoughtful mood.

CHALLENGE: ADD THIS WORD TO YOUR WRITING THIS WEEK!

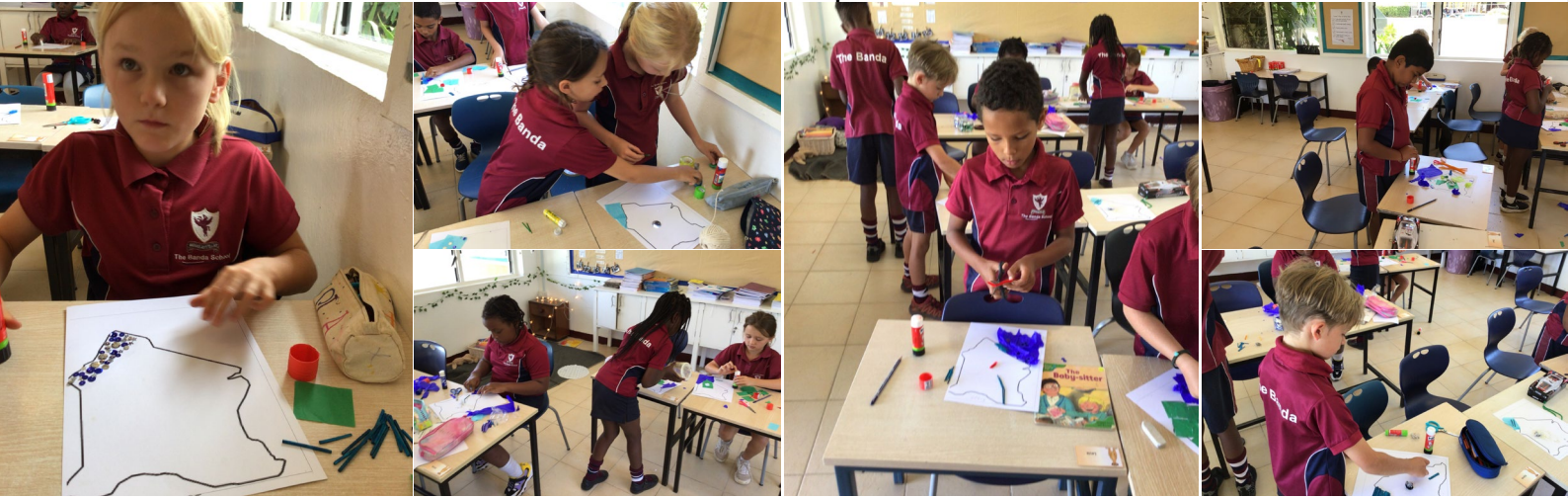
YEAR 4

Learning about the human body can be a lot of fun, especially when you get to get your hands dirty! In this creative project, children didn't just read about teeth—they brought them to life. Using modeling clay, they sculpted their very own set of 'chompers', from the sharp front teeth to the powerful molars in the back. This hands-on activity was a memorable way to learn the names and functions of the four main types of teeth. By shaping each tooth with their own hands, the children gained a deeper understanding of how every single tooth works together to help us chew and digest our food. It's a project that proves science and art can make the perfect pair!



YEAR 3

Year 3 had great fun identifying physical features on a map of Kenya. They enjoyed using various craft materials to label them on their 3D maps.



Spelling can sometimes be tiresome to learn. Lots of writing, checking and yet more writing of each word. Mrs Foster's group enjoyed using natural resources to spell out their words for this week. This was much more exciting than completing practice grids!



YEAR 3

3HF had an exciting time unearthing fossils, skulls and ancient tools. They used paintbrushes for the delicate discoveries like a real archeologist would. We are studying Handy Man who was found in Olduvai Gorge in Tanzania. We enjoyed recreating the discovery. Do you know why he was named Handy Man?



YEAR 2

After watching our beans germinate in class, we were excited to plant them in our Year 2 Shamba.



YEAR 2

Year 2 have been learning to count in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s. This week we used a range of activities to support our learning.



YEAR 1

In Science this week we made a vegetable market. We sorted the fruits and vegetables using our 5 different senses.





YEAR 1

In Numeracy we did some practical activities to compare numbers to 10 using less than, greater than and equal to.



PEGASUS EARLY YEARS - RECEPTION

Very Important Play time is had in Reception enabling the children to follow their own interests, express themselves and develop social skills. Here a flurry of colour as sound takes over the Pegasus garden! The smiles say it all.



NURSERY 2

We read "The Star that Fell" by Karen Hayes. We made beautiful "Arduus ad Stellas" portraits, and then learnt the rhyme "Hey diddle, diddle"; enjoying counting stars and making the cow that jumped over the moon.



NURSERY 1

Nursery 1 have started their sport lessons with great energy and gusto. They have been working on movement skills; avoiding obstacles and people through jumping, side stepping and swerving, all of which are part of their fundamental movement goals this year. They have already made great progress and are having a lot of fun at their weekly sports lessons.



RIISING STARS

This week we explored activities that required us to use our feet and legs. The children enjoyed jumping on a trampoline, walking barefoot and making a splash in the muddy puddle. Best of all was braving the tickling experience as we painted their feet!



WEEK 5

MENU

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

MORNING BREAK

Vanilla Cake
Fruit

Cookies
Carrot Sticks

Focaccia Bread
Fruit

Sandwiches
Cucumber Sticks

Flapjacks
Fruit

LUNCH:

SOUP

Cream of
Vegetable Soup

MAINS

Spaghetti
Bolognaise

Chicken in Mild
Masala

Beef Biryani

Chicken Stir Fry

Fish in Batter

PEY & GF:
Chicken Goujons

VEGGIE / SPECIAL DIETS

Cheese
Macaroni

Lentil Daal Masala

Vegetable Biryani

Vegetable Stir Fry
with Tofu

Chickpea Cutlets

Vegan
Bolognaise

Vegan Biryani

Vegan Cutlets

SIDES

Grated Cheese
Crunchy
Vegetables

Chapati

Sautéed
Vegetables

Yoghurt Sauce

Kachumbari

Noodles

Chips
Baked Beans
Assorted Salads

DESSERT MAIN SCHOOL

Fruit Platter

Yoghurt

Fruit Salad &
Custard

Vanilla Cake

Ice Cream

DESSERT PEY

Fruit Platter

Yoghurt

Fruit Salad

Fresh Fruit

Fruit Platter

- From sauces and chutneys to flapjacks and focaccia, 95% of our what we serve is cooked on-site by our catering staff
 - We cater for varied food preferences in our menu and always have Halal and allergen free options
 - All eggs are free range and organic as well as many of the vegetables

Menu is subject to change

NOTICE BOARD

12th EDITION THE BUTTERFLY TRUST CONCERT



Date of Concert

27th September 2025 2.30PM to 4.30PM

Below 18yrs Kes 1000	Adults Kes 1500	Above 60 yrs Kes 1000
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PARTICIPANTS

Braeburn | Cavina | Kenton
Brookhouse & SCLPSS

LIPA NA MPESA

Paybill : 7818925
Acc No : Name, Concert

Info & Tickets: Call/Whatsapp/Text: 0768-922889

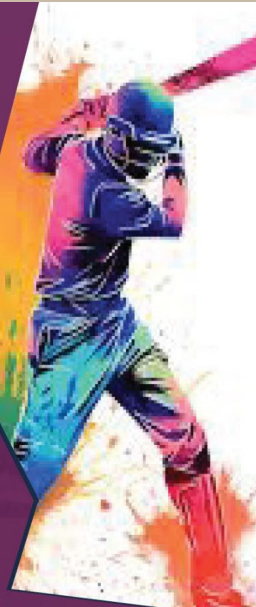
Venue: Kenton
College Hall



JUNIOR CRICKET TRAINING

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9.00 AM - 11.00 AM
KSh 1,500 Per Session
EVERY SATURDAY



WHAT TO BRING:

Water Bottle, Snacks, Sports Clothes, Hat,
Sun Cream

U9: Softball - bring a bat
U11: Hardball - bring full kit if you have it



Everyone is Welcomed -
Girls and Boys
of all abilities and ages!



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ORCHIDS THROUGH LEGENDS

16th - 19th OCTOBER 2025
SARIT EXPO CENTRE- LOITA HALL

| BEAUTIFUL ORCHID DISPLAYS | CHILDREN'S ART COMPETITIONS
| ORCHID PLANT SALES | LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS AND TALKS

ENTRANCE: KSHS. 200 PER PERSON | CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS: FREE

OPENING HOURS: THUR TO SAT: 10:00AM - 5:30PM
SUNDAY: 10:00AM - 3:30PM

Save the New Date!

BANDA PTA CAR BOOT SALE



OCTOBER 25TH
VENUE: KISEMBE CAR PARK

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!