Celebrating 60 Years

Spirit of The Banda

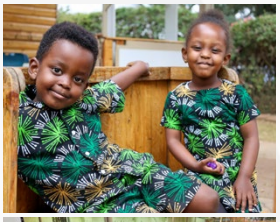
Friday 9th October 2026


















See Sept Week 7 & 8 events overleaf

Follow us on:

wellbeing WALL

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Our Years 3 & 4 have had a wonderful time with our Counsellor, Ivanna. Year 3 enjoyed their friendship chat while the Year 4s enjoyed a talk on inclusivity and positive self-talk. They explored the importance of making everyone feel welcome and valued, while learning how positive words can help build self-belief and confidence.







CHOCOCHAT WITH MRS ROGERS

This week the Year 1s were invited to ChocoChats with Mrs Rogers. Together, they chatted about their favorite highlights of Year 1 so far, as well as a few things they miss from Reception.



Your PTA Committee

THE PEOPLE REPRESENTING YOU

INTRODUCING OUR PTA SUB-COMMITTEES

This week we would like to introduce the five sub-committees that have been formed to address the issues and challenges most often raised by the parent body. Read on for more information on each of them.

FOOD UNIFORM CHARITIES WELLBEING COMMUNICATIONS

Food

Your voice on school meals and catering

WHO
Parent reps from each school area, the Head of Catering and SLT

MEETS
Once a term

- Shares class and year-group feedback on food, and suggests school-friendly meals
- Promotes healthy eating, in line with school policy
- Leads food and food-related fundraising at PTA events

Not responsible for: selecting school meal suppliers or budgeting decisions. Pupil feedback goes through the Student Council.

Uniform

Your voice on school uniform

WHO
Parent reps from each school area, the uniform supplier and SLT

MEETS
Twice a year

- Shares class and year-group feedback on school uniform with the school and supplier

Not responsible for: selecting the uniform supplier or budgeting decisions. Pupil feedback goes through the Student Council.

Charities

Our Charity Policy guides how we select and fund our partner charities. Keep an eye out in the coming weeks for our **call for applications**, where you can submit eligible charities for consideration.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING

Wildlife, Nature & Environment
Conservation, reforestation, environmental education

Children's Education & Development
Literacy, school infrastructure, inclusion

WHAT WE LOOK FOR

- Registered Kenyan NGOs, Trusts or CBOs
- Clear accountability and measurable outcomes
- Learning or volunteering opportunities for pupils

Did you know? All profits from PTA events go to the charity selected for that event.

Wellbeing NEW

Exploring how we can better support the personal, social, emotional and mental health of pupils, parents and teachers, working with the Heads of Pastoral Care.

We'd love your feedback on areas to address.

Communications NEW

Helping parents understand who the PTA is, what we do and how to get involved, starting with this page in *Spirit of the Banda*.

Are these updates useful? Let us know, and send in questions for our Term 2 parent FAQ.

GET TO KNOW YOUR PTA COMMITTEE



Grace Ndung'u

PTA CHAIR

Born and raised in Kenya, I'm mom to Chanel (Yr 11) and Aaliyah (Yr 4). With over a decade of experience in operations and communications, I love bringing people together. When I'm not lost in a good book or travelling, you'll find me knitting with my girls. As PTA Chair, my main goal is to boost family engagement across the school. Catch me at drop-off/pick-up or reach out via WhatsApp. I'd love to connect!



Marita Huurinainen

PTA SECRETARY

Hi there! I'm Marita, PTA Secretary. Originally from Finland, we've found a comfortable home here in Kenya. As a designer, I love working with the colours, vibes and incredible craft skills here. My elder daughter, Sade, graduated from Banda last year, and our little energy piece, Sisu, is in Year 4. My interest in education and belief in the power of community led me to the PTA. I'm looking forward to the year ahead!

GET IN TOUCH If you have any feedback or suggestions, or would like to know how to get involved with any of the sub-committees, please message your class rep on WhatsApp or email the PTA at **pta@bandaschool.com**.



THE ELEPHANT QUEEN TRUST

The Banda School

An intimate fundraiser for
The Elephant Queen Trust

6:30pm • Thursday 29th October • The Banda School

We invite you to share an extraordinary conservation education initiative in action.

On a rare visit to Nairobi, ***The Elephant Queen Outreach* team** brings us the storytelling they share with schools and communities in Kenya's remote wildlife landscapes.

Enjoy their second film, ***The Elephant & the Termite*** , on a giant screen; a live theatre & puppetry taster; and a showcase of the ***Mimi na Wewe conservation learn-to-read series*** — all in support of their work nurturing biodiversity appreciation and human–wildlife coexistence across Kenya.

All welcome • KSh 500 at the door. Further donations to the Trust warmly received.



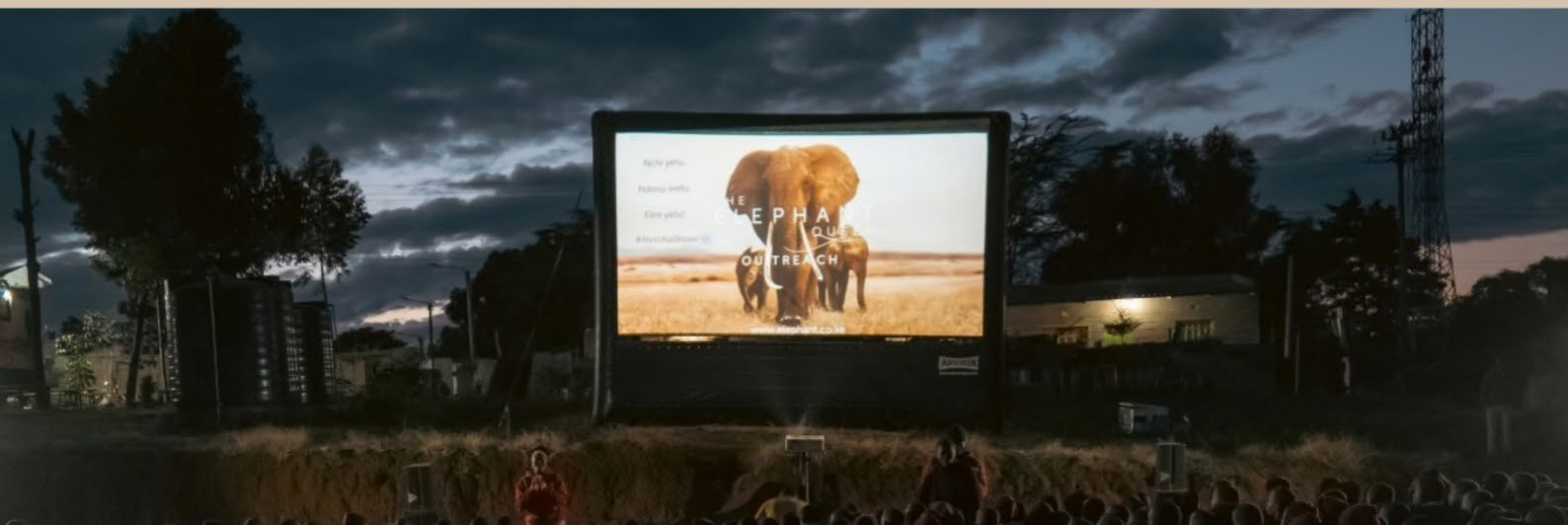












The Banda School

Word OF THE Week

Blatant

Very obvious, often in a bad way.

CHALLENGE: ADD THIS WORD TO YOUR WRITING THIS WEEK!



UNIFORM UPDATE

Animet Galleria branch is pleased to let The Banda community know that the new design school hats and Swimming kit for boys and girls are now in stock!

We have some new design book bags with a handy carrying handle on the way soon.

A reminder that you can call the Animet call center 011055450 or Whatsapp the call center on 0110689648 to get pricing information, or make orders. Information regarding uniform required for your child can be found on the new Animet website page: Animet Banda uniform and the sizing chart is available here.

Look out for Animet pop-up shop which will move to The Banda, for a few days, early next term.

PHONICS WORKSHOP

Thank you to all the parents who came along to our Phonics workshop last week Monday. This week, Monster Phonics has launched some online games that you might enjoy playing with your child during half term. They can be found here.





YOUNG VOCALISTS COMPETITION

We are thrilled to share that Micaiah in Year 7 and Terra in Year 8, represented The Banda at the Young Vocalist Competition 2026 preliminaries, held at Braeburn, Garden Estate on October 3rd and 4th. Both students performed exceptionally well and have secured spots among the top seven finalists! They will return to Braeburn, Garden Estate for the finals on October 18th. We are immensely proud of Micaiah and Terra for this remarkable achievement and wish them the absolute best of luck in the final round.





SWIMMING REPORT

Our swimmers have had a busy and successful month, competing in NCSA events every weekend as well as an IAPS Relay warm-up. The team trained hard and competed with exceptional effort, with our swimmers winning an impressive 26 medals across the NCSA events, while every swimmer improved on their personal best times. At the IAPS Relay warm-up, the team put in another outstanding performance, finishing second overall in the competition. We wish all our swimmers continued success as they train, compete and strive to beat their PBs!







CONGRATULATIONS

Sam in Year 8 recently starred in the play, Teacher of Worms, and was impressive. You can watch his scenes here.

Elsewhere, Andie in Year 7 & Isla in Year 3 took part in the East African Kennel Club Dog Show last weekend which was judged by Diane Stuart-Ritchie from the UK. The first class was junior handling, a fun event for children to demonstrate their dog handling skills. Andie came second, competing with children in the 12-18 yrs category. The next class was “minor puppy” where both Andie and Isla showed five month old Labrador puppies who were placed third and fourth. And the last class was Labrador “novice” with Andie and her dog Luna earning second place!









TALK ON HILLCREST SCHOLARSHIPS

On Tuesday morning we welcomed Sian May (Principal) and Kodeck Mose (Deputy Head Academic) from Hillcrest School to speak with our Year 8 parents and pupils about the newly launched scholarship programme: the Academic Scholarships and the Changemaker Scholarships. Information about the application process, deadlines and assessments were shared. This year, the Hillcrest scholarship application deadline is Wednesday 4th November 2025. We are very grateful to Sian and Kodeck for their time and presentation. Further information can be found by scanning the QR code on the poster.









CRICKET SEASON SO FAR...

It has been a fantastic term of cricket for The Banda, with plenty of success across all of our teams. Most importantly, it has been wonderful to see the huge progress our pupils have made since the start of the season.

There have been a number of exciting developments in our cricket programme this term. Our Under 11 A girls have made the step up to hard-ball cricket, which has been brilliant to see.

We have also introduced underarm feeds instead of tee pegs with our younger pupils in some matches, encouraging them to develop their timing by striking a moving ball. After the half-term break, our Under 9 Outlaws will also take another exciting step forward when they play a hard-ball fixture against Peponi.

For those who enjoy the statistics, our teams have so far played an incredible 92 matches, winning 77, drawing one and losing just 14. These results are a fantastic reflection of the hard work, enthusiasm and commitment shown by all of our pupils and coaches throughout the term. It has been a brilliant cricket season so far, and we still have another three weeks to enjoy before moving onto football.

A huge thank you must go to all of our coaches, ground staff and catering staff for their efforts and support throughout the season. Their hard work behind the scenes makes a huge difference and is greatly appreciated.

Well done to everyone involved, and we look forward to another exciting three weeks of cricket!













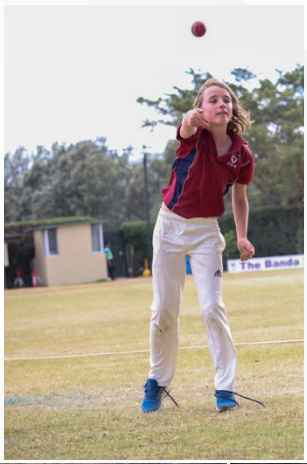







TOTAL 106
WICKETS 2



















The Banda

The Banda

The Banda



TOTAL 46
WICKETS







TOTAL 65




TOTAL 98
WICKETS 4
OVERS 12
OPPOSITION





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STAFF


IAPS ATHLETICS WARMUP

On Monday 5th October, The Banda hosted the Nairobi West Athletics Warm-Up event, competing against Braeburn School and Hillcrest Prep. It was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to showcase their skills and talents in a competitive environment, and they certainly rose to the occasion. The Banda athletes performed incredibly well across both the track and field events, demonstrating excellent determination, effort and sportsmanship throughout the afternoon.

A special mention must go to Orla McCorkell, Arabella Williams, Amia Erasmus and Rosa Overbeeke-Sberna, who were the only Year 3 pupils competing at the event. They all performed exceptionally well and should be very proud of their efforts. One of the most pleasing aspects of the afternoon was the fantastic support shown amongst The Banda team. Pupils encouraged and cheered one another on throughout the event, creating a brilliant team atmosphere.

With so many impressive performances, us coaches now have the difficult task of making selections for our next two athletics events at Ulinzi Sports Complex and Peponi Secondary School. It is a very good selection headache to have! Well done to everyone who took part in a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon of athletics.




The Banda
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The Banda School





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The Band



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YEAR 8

Our Year 8 pupils have been hard at work honing their spoken French this week! To prepare for their upcoming Speaking examinations, students paired up to conduct mock interviews focused on personal descriptions—discussing everything from appearance and personality traits to family and hobbies.

It was fantastic to hear the classroom buzzing with lively French conversation as pupils took turns playing interviewer and interviewee. Beyond building their vocabulary and perfecting their pronunciation, these practice sessions are helping students develop spontaneous communication skills and boost their confidence ahead of the exams. Bravo à tous!









YEAR 7 TRIP TO MALEWA

Year 7 have just returned from a fantastic trip to Malewa Bush Camp in Gilgil, full of adventure, teamwork and plenty of good humour! After some fun (and very wet!) team-building games to sort them into groups, the children headed off to their adventure activities: raft building and high ropes. The raft builders enjoyed plenty of success, with most creations proving surprisingly sturdy when put to the test on the river. One raft was named The Titanic… so perhaps its fate was inevitable! Up on the high ropes, children challenged themselves, overcame fears and showed real determination, all while encouraging their friends to keep going.

On Thursday morning, the whole year group set off on a gorge-walking adventure. After plenty of scrambling, we reached a pool where everyone cooled off with a well-earned swim. There was also plenty of free time for cricket, football and even an impromptu catwalk! In the evenings, we enjoyed campfires, hot chocolate and the essential Banda trip tradition of toasted marshmallows. Thursday night ended with a brilliant talent show, expertly judged by our birthday girls, Lyla and Malla.

Most importantly, the children were a real credit to the school. They worked brilliantly as a team, stayed organised and consistently supported one another. Even when the rain arrived in full force on Thursday night, they remained positive, resilient and wonderfully good-humoured. It has been a fantastic few days of adventure, laughter and teamwork. Well done, Year 7!

















The
PATRICK





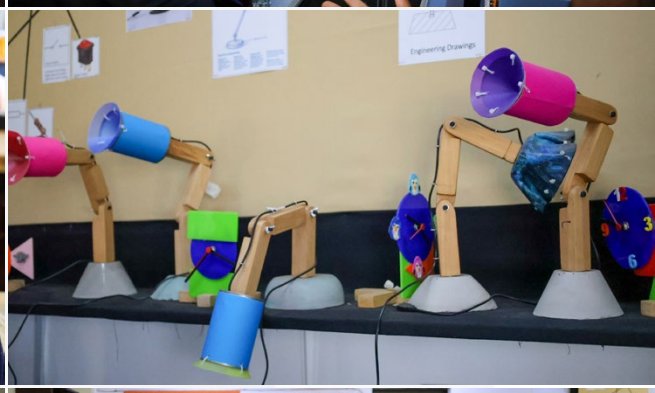

Jeep

YEAR 5

We are excited to introduce new equipment to The Banda School's Design & Technology and Engineering department, including a professional Vacuum Former. Our pupils will use it to create wooden moulds and thermoform HIPS sheets, giving them valuable experience of real-world design and manufacturing processes. Year 5 will be using the machine to create the base structures for their custom clock projects, developing practical skills that will support them through secondary school and beyond.











YEAR 5 MUSIC & DRAMA SHOWCASE

What an unforgettable showcase of growth, passion, and artistic expression! Our Year 5 pupils took to the stage to give us an exciting preview of what's in store after transition into the Upper School. The audience was treated to an incredible lineup featuring full-class numbers, joint vocal performances, great piano and vocal solos, and a standout drama skit. Seeing the confidence and teamwork on display highlights just how ready these young artists are for the bigger stages ahead. Thank you to our dedicated Performing Arts team and supportive families for helping our pupils shine!













Word OF THE Week

JUNIOR

Wander

To walk without a particular direction.

CHALLENGE: ADD THIS WORD TO YOUR WRITING THIS WEEK!

LOWER SCHOOL HOUSE CAPTAINS

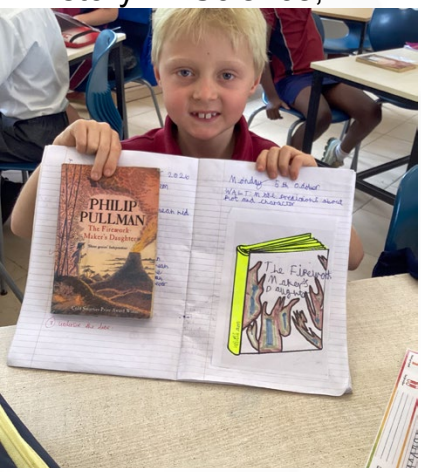
Our fantastic Lower School House Captains have been lending a helping hand to our Year 1 and 2 children by listening to them read. It has been wonderful to see these older leaders inspire confidence, share a love for books and build wonderful connections across the school!

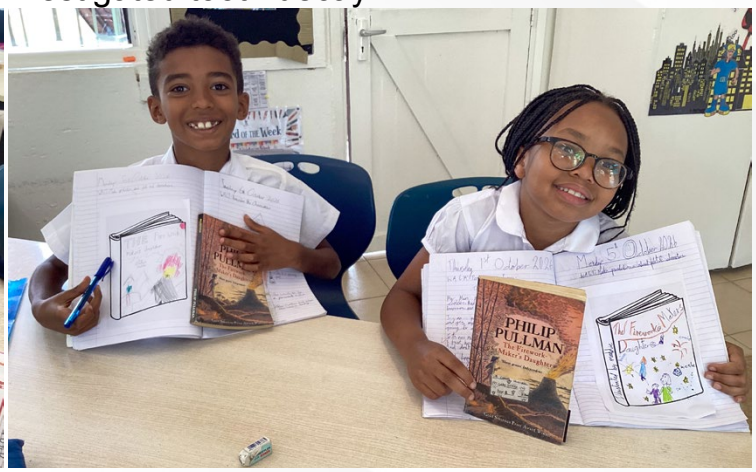


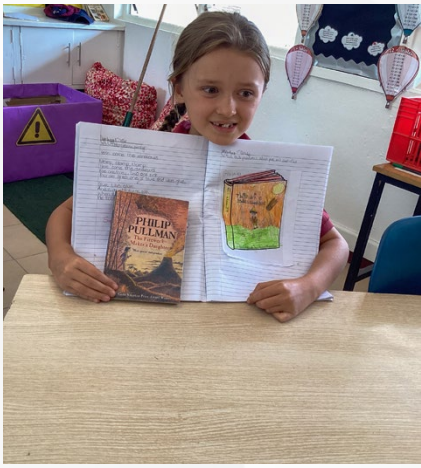


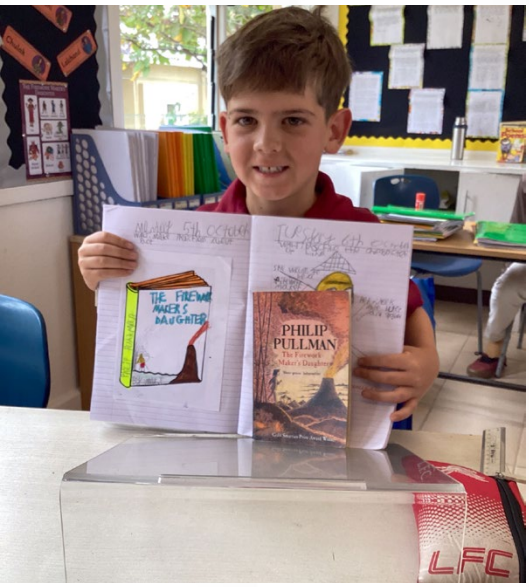
YEAR 4

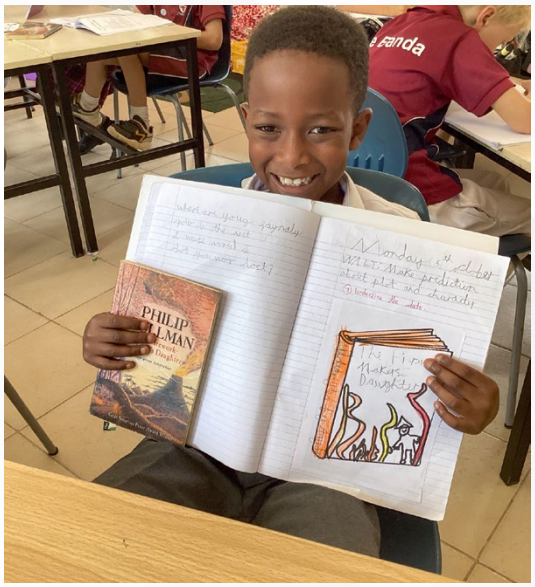
This week in Literacy, we began exploring our class reader, The Firework Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman. The children enjoyed creating their own imaginative book covers inspired by the story. In Science, 4FD investigated tooth decay!



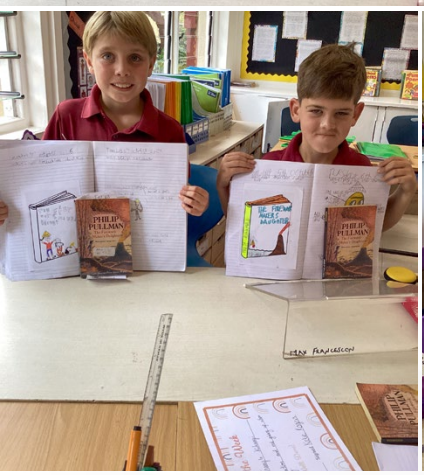






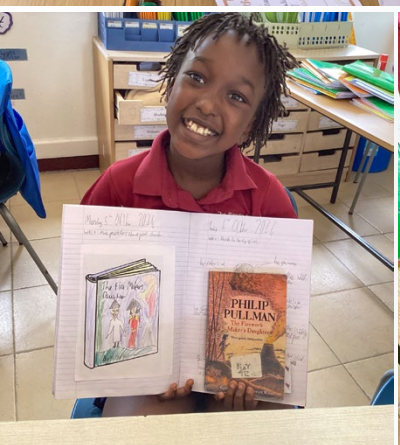


















YEAR 4

The Year 4s were delighted to welcome Mrs Bitghe, Luca's mum, who spoke about her work with the World Bank and how they support small businesses to grow. The children enjoyed pitching their business ideas and impressed her with their knowledge of stocks, shares and investing. It was a pleasure to have her with us!



YEAR 3

Four brave members of 3HF stepped forward to deliver a speech in the hope of being voted as a member of the school council for this academic year. Some prepared speeches whilst others decided there and then to have a go.





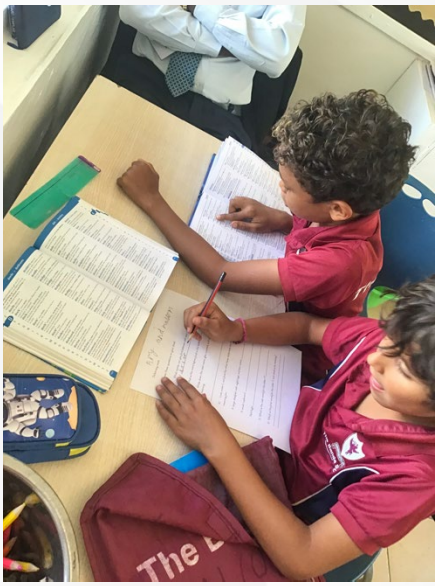


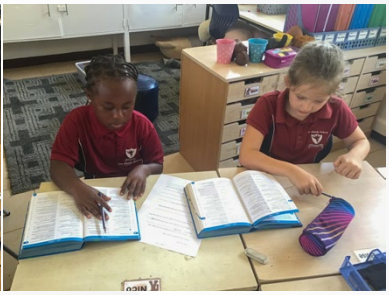


YEAR 3

We had fun using a dictionary and learning how to find words. We even made up meanings to our own words! Look out for a new 2026 dictionary!!



We had so much fun investigating soil during Science! We tested lots of things such as drainage, acidity, proof of life, organic matter and more. It was amazing!







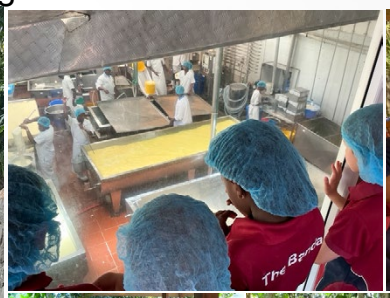







YEAR 2 TRIP TO BROWN'S CHEESE

Year 2 had the best time on their trip to Brown's Cheese Factory and Farm in Limuru. First they had a factory tour to see how they make cheese and ice cream, next a fun scavenger hunt in the shamba, some milking of a cow and finished off with making their very own pizzas!





























YEAR 1 TRIP TO MIZIZI ECO CIRCLE

For our trip in Year 1, we went to Mizizi Eco Circle. The children enjoyed learning about compost and what lives inside it, learning about different types of plants and even planting one themselves.




















YEAR 1

In Science we finished our topic by making some very colourful and creative sensory bottles.

























Pegasus

Word of the Week

kindness



WALINZI WADOGO WA MAZINGIRA















ers
















PEY PICNIC

















RECEPTION

Coming to the end of our topic, “All About Me”, Reception children enjoyed making loose parts portraits and we can all agree they look amazing!











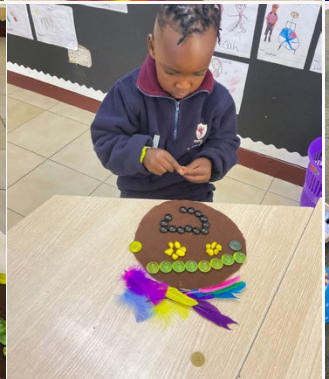















NURSERY 2

This week, Nursery 2 sang along to Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush while exploring the changing seasons and honing their counting skills up to five. To bring the learning to life and strengthen fine motor skills, the children crafted vibrant mulberry bushes and painted colourful representations of all four seasons.























NURSERY 2

Some Creative and Challenging mark making in Nursery 2!






NURSERY 1 LIBRARY LESSON

These little listeners had a wonderful session in the library where their imaginations ran wild hearing a story about a pet star.
















NURSERY 1

Our Nursery 1 storytellers have had a colourful time exploring David McKee's classic tale, Elmer the Patchwork Elephant! After learning all about how Elmer's vibrant, unique design makes him special, the children put their fine motor skills to work crafting their very own patchwork elephants using a bright collage of colourful fabric pieces and glue. It was a wonderful hands-on, tactile activity that celebrated individuality, friendship, and the joy of being uniquely ourselves!













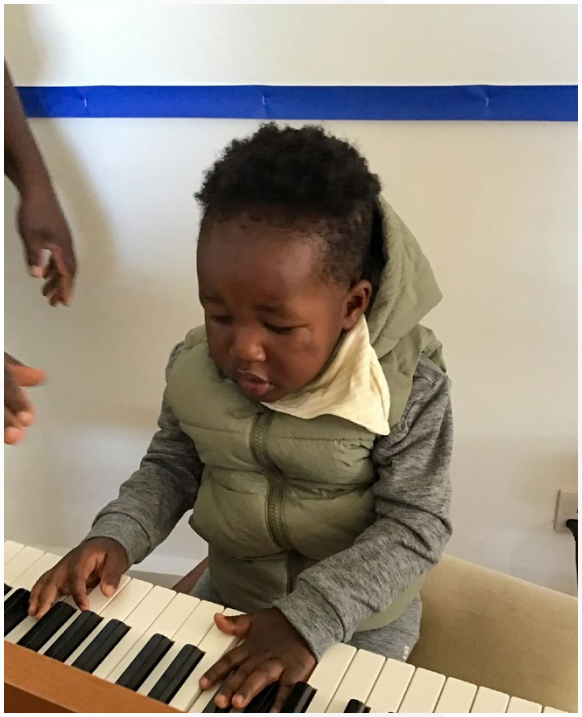







RISING STARS

Rising Stars enjoy their music lessons and take pride in exploring different musical instruments.





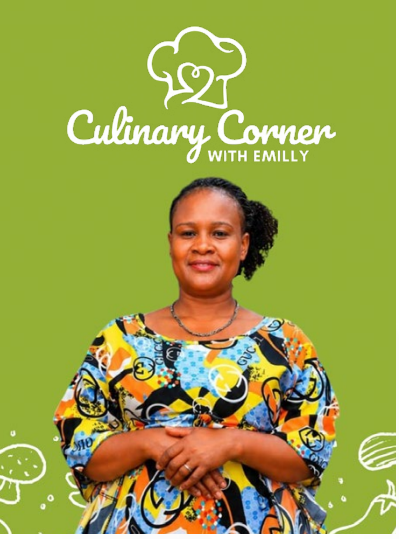












A NUGGET



We would love to find out what you enjoyed eating during the school break! Try your best to remember your favourite meal and share it with me when we come back to school in Week 8.

Recipe to Try at Home

Homemade Naan Bread

Key Ingredients

- 2 tsp dry yeast
- 1 tsp sugar
- ½ cup warm water
- 400 g plain flour
- ¼ tsp salt
- ¼ cup (60 ml) olive oil
- ⅓ cup (80 ml) plain yoghurt, optional

Method

1. Mix the warm water and olive oil in a bowl.
2. In a separate bowl, mix the flour, yeast, sugar and salt.
3. Add the water and oil mixture and mix into a dough.
4. Turn the dough onto a lightly floured surface and knead until smooth and soft.
5. Cover and leave to rest until the dough doubles in size.
6. Divide the dough into balls and roll each one out.
7. Heat a pan and cook the naan until golden brown on both sides.
8. Place on a plate and cover with a clean tea towel.
9. Serve plain or brush with melted butter.

WEEK 8 MENU	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MORNING BREAK			Vanilla Cookies Carrot Sticks	Cucumber Sandwiches Fresh Fruit	Cheese Straws Cucumber sticks
LUNCH: SOUP				Tomato Soup	
MAINS	HALF-TERM	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Chicken Stir-Fry Noodles	Beef Stroganoff	Fish Goujons PEY: Chicken Goujons
VEGGIE			Vegetable Stir-Fry with Halloumi Noodles	Bean Stroganoff	Chickpea Cutlets
SIDES			Fresh Seasonal Vegetables	Steamed Rice Glazed Carrots & Baby Marrow	Chips Cauliflower & Broccoli
DESSERT MAIN SCHOOL			Fruit Salad	Apple Crumble & Custard	Fruit Platter
DESSERT PEY			Fruit Salad	Apple Slices	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

IAPS KENYA

ST.E.A.M DAY

SCIENCE · TECHNOLOGY · ENGINEERING · ART · MATHS

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY: HELP US EMPOWER YOUNG MINDS!

WE INVITE YOU TO BE A PART OF THE BANDA SCHOOL

When: Wednesday, 13th November
Who: All Kenya IAPS schools + local Kenyan school integration
Activity: Students tackle a real-life problem as collaborative teams
Impact: Promoting collaboration, critical thinking, and a shared future

FUNDING NEEDED FOR PUPIL KIT: T-SHIRTS AND BAGS



SPONSOR BENEFITS

- Logo placement on T-shirts & bags
- Brand exposure to a wide network of schools and families
- Newsletter feature
- Supporting local education and integration

If interested please contact Mr De Wet at The Banda School
an.dewet@bandaschool.com

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING KENYAN STUDENTS AND OUR FUTURE!

NOTICE BOARD



NOTICE BOARD







NOTICE BOARD



Registration: 8:30am | **Guided Tours:** 9:00am

Refreshments and Q&A: 10:15am

We welcome you to meet our community and explore our excellent learning environment.

• Day • Weekly Boarding • Full Boarding

Kindly book your tour through registrar@peponischool.org | 0735887425
www.peponischool.org | Peponi School, Northlands Ranch, Off Thika Super Highway

NOTICE BOARD

KENYA ORCHID SOCIETY PRESENTS

ONCE UPON AN ORCHID



The theme of the competition this year is 'ONCE UPON AN ORCHID...'

This competition is open to schools in Nairobi and the environs and will be classified in five age groups as follows;

6 years and under;
7 - 10 years; 11 - 13 years;
14 - 16 years; 17 - 19 years

Closing Date:
Wednesday 14th October, 2026

All pictures entered in this competition will be displayed at the Annual Orchid Show, 29th October - 1st November, 2026, at the Sarit Centre Exhibition Hall

NOTICE BOARD

