Celebrating 60 Years

Spirit of The Banda

Friday 30th October 2026

A WORD FROM THE HEADMASTER

As the cricket season begins to draw to a close, House Matches have taken centre stage during Games sessions this week. Whilst inter-school matches are invariably competitive, there is something very special about inter-house competition - the power of the coloured shirt always seems to add an extra edge to such encounters. Whilst school teams are selected on playing ability, there is something unique about the members of a house all pulling together, regardless of ability, to fight for their common cause. Bragging rights amongst the peers that you see every day are just that bit sweeter than against the opponents you only see once a term.

Inter-school sport teaches our pupils grace in victory, resilience in defeat, and sportsmanship against strangers. But House matches teach them something equally vital: passion, loyalty and the joy of competing both for and against their friends. This week's matches were all played in great spirit with several close games leaving the identity of the overall winners in the hands of the mathematicians.

Elsewhere this week, the Under 9 girls and boys enjoyed a very successful day at the Kenton Cricket Festival; Year 3 spent a morning at Kamili Designs; and a good crowd enjoyed yesterday evening's open-air screening of The Elephant and the Termite from the Elephant Queen Trust.

And finally…. Good luck to our Under 11 girls and boys in their IAPS cricket tournaments tomorrow.

James Moss-Gibbons



Our Orchestral Team

See Sept Week 10 events overleaf

Follow us on:

wellbeing WALL

CHOCOCHAT WITH MRS ROGERS

Year 2 enjoyed a wonderful ChocoChat with Mrs Rogers this week.The children shared everything they love about the playground, from their favourite games to creative ideas for new additions they would like to see in the play area.



STAFF STROLLERS

Since September, some of the staff have come together every Friday morning before school starts to walk and run. The Staff Strollers has been born and is a brilliant way of kicking off the weekend for our staff. Different faces from all parts of the staff body attend and quite often there is a coffee at the end to wrap things up. There is nothing better than a good chat, some laughter and some movement to finish the week!

THE BANDA STAFF STROLLERS

RUN • WALK • STROLL • CHAT





Your PTA Page

SPIRIT OF THE BANDA · WEEK 9

SAVE THE DATE

19 NOV

PTA Christmas Drinks
For parents and teachers

Date Thursday 19th November
Time 6:30pm onwards
Venue Matteos Event Space
Tickets **KES 3,500 per person** – includes a welcome drink, delicious canapés and 1 raffle entry!

HOW TO BOOK
M-PESA Paybill
172749
Account: **Xmas Party**

30 NOV **Kids' Christmas party** At school · Monday · ***Details to follow***

FOOD SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE

A REMINDER: THE ROLE OF THE PTA

*The PTA's sub-committees, including Food, gather parents' views and make **recommendations**, while decisions and procurement remain the school's responsibility. We'll keep parents updated and liaise with the school on which recommendations are adopted and why, helping to support **transparency** and build trust.*

Last year, the food sub-committee shared feedback from class groups, suggested new snack and meal options, and helped answer parents' questions. The committee included representatives from the SLT, catering team, PTA and parents.The school has provided the following update on the work undertaken last year: *"discussions covered how drinking water is stored and served, as well as the checks and cleaning processes in place. Water filters, dispensers and bottles are regularly cleaned, checked and replaced as appropriate"*

This year, the PTA will re-form the sub-committee with representation from the new members. They will follow up on last year's work and continue gathering parents' feedback. We'll share the new members' names here as soon as they are confirmed. In the meantime, please send any questions for this sub-committee via the PTA email below or your class representative.

You are also welcome to reach out directly to Emilly, Head of Catering. Check out the Culinary Corner in The Spirit each week as this is where the school shares 'nuggets' of information and updates along with Emilly's recipes so you can try them at home!

GET TO KNOW YOUR PTA COMMITTEE

Continuing to get to know your PTA: this week and next, we're introducing our upper school reps.



Audrey Waita
YEAR 8 CLASS REP

I'm Audrey Waita, your Year 8 Class Representative. Our family has been part of the school community for four wonderful years, and I'm mum to Mwendwa in Year 8 and an adorable two-year-old, who currently runs the household. By day, I run a legal practice helping small businesses navigate the local legal and regulatory environment. I also juggle family life with a few entrepreneurial ventures. I joined the PTA because I want to help our children and parents to get the best of a wonderful institution. When I'm not working or chasing after a toddler, you'll find me enjoying a good book or travelling. Please feel free to say hello at pick-up or reach out on the Year 8 WhatsApp Group. I look forward to engaging with you over the next year!



Wanjiku Njuguna Minjire
YEAR 7 CLASS REP

I was born and raised in Kenya. I have three children: my daughter is 14 and finished Banda last year, and I have two boys in Year 7 and Year 5. I am an advocate of the High Court and passionate about mother and baby and all things parenting.

When I am not being a mum, I run my retail and manufacturing businesses here in Kenya for mum and baby products. I joined the PTA because I believe it takes a village to make the Banda community a great community for everyone. It's been a great place for my children and I want to be part of the PTA to support that.

I am always available on WhatsApp or for a coffee.

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**.


PTA
CREATING HAPPY MOMENTS
THE BANDA PTA
Christmas Drinks
Date: Thursday 19th November
Time: 6:30pm onwards
Venue: Matteos Event Space
Celebrate the festive season with our Christmas Raffle Fun & Charity Auction whilst spreading joy and making a difference to those in need.
TICKETS ON SALE
KES 3,500 per person
M-PESA Paybill: 172749
Account: Xmas Party

The Banda School

Word OF THE Week

Compelling

Very interesting or convincing.

CHALLENGE: ADD THIS WORD TO YOUR WRITING THIS WEEK!

CONGRATULATIONS

Another fantastic result for the Morobike Enduro 5 in Kijabe! Fred in Year 4 took first place in the JC1 class, while Mariella in Year 8 claimed victory in the JC2 category! Congratulations to both pupils on their excellent performances!





EFFORT GRADE CHAMPIONS

As pupils and parents know, each half term pupils in Years 1-8 receive an Effort Grade in each timetabled subject to recognise the effort which a pupil puts into that subject. We are delighted to introduce our new Effort Grade Champions initiative, celebrating pupils who demonstrate exceptional effort and commitment to their learning. At the end of each half term, the top 15% of pupils in each year group will be recognised as Effort Grade Champions, rewarding their hard work, perseverance and positive attitude towards learning, rather than academic attainment alone. We are also excited to announce that Effort Grades will now contribute to our House Competition, giving pupils another way to earn points for their House. Well done to Duma for coming out at the top this time only 0.28 ahead of Swara, then Simba and Twiga. We hope this will encourage everyone to take pride in their learning, strive to do their best and recognise that effort really does matter! Well done to this half term's Effort Grade Champions! Our champions from Year 1 are shown here.

THE BANDA EFFORT GRADES

5	OUTSTANDING Always: • displays a hard working mentality • contributes useful comments in class • shows significant interest in the subject Exemplary conduct and focus
4	VERY GOOD Frequently: • displays a hard working mentality • contributes useful comments in class • shows interest in the subject Very good conduct and focus
3	GOOD Normally: • displays a hard working mentality • contributes useful comments in class • shows interest in the subject Good conduct and focus
2	ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT Occasionally: • displays a hard working mentality • contributes useful comments in class • shows interest in the subject Conduct and focus need improvement
1	POOR Rarely: • displays a hard working mentality • contributes useful comments in class • shows interest in the subject Conduct and focus are poor



U9 CRICKET FESTIVAL REPORT

On Thursday our Under 9 Outlaws and Rockets were in action at the IAPS Under 9 Festival at Kenton. On a scorching day, there was no room for starting slowly and both the girls and the boys came out of the traps in superb fashion. With the bat, they ran between the wickets cleverly and bravely, struck the ball with fluent timing and racked up some big scores. Then with the ball in hand they were consistent and backed it up with some energetic fielding. Both sets of players were a joy to watch on the morning and can be very proud of going unbeaten on the day with 4 wins from 4 for both the girls and the boys. The future of Banda cricket is looking extremely bright.





CHESS REPORT

Over Half Term, five of our chess players took part in a tournament in Karen, organised by Chessmates Premier. Sissu and Taiwa each scored 3 out of 6 points, while Aydin achieved an impressive 4 out of 6. Olivia finished second overall in the Under 7 Girls category, while Aaliyah took first place in the Under 9 Girls category. A fantastic result for our young chess players and an encouraging start as they prepare for the IAPS Online Chess Championship series, which begins on 12th November. Well done to all five pupils!





ELEPHANT QUEEN TRUST

A big thank you to the huge number of families and friends who attended our film screening of ‘The Elephant and Termite’ and the accompanying theatre piece yesterday evening. The weather was kind to us and we loved sitting out on the Banda fields watching a huge screen. We were so grateful to the highly professional Elephant Queen Trust team for all their work in preparing for the performance, their wonderful singing and engaging performance, and we wish them luck as they continue their journey on the road around Kenya, spreading their incredible messages linked to conservation and literacy.

For those who would like to donate further, please Mpesa to
Paybill Number - 172749
Account Name - Elephant Queen















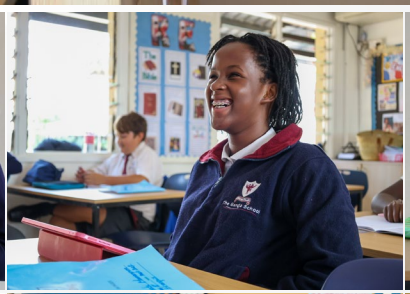


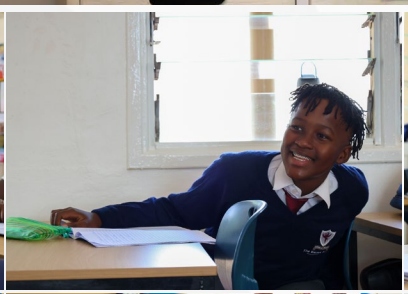
YEAR 8

Year 8 prepared for their French speaking exams by practising their responses and refining their pronunciations.



















YEAR 7

This week in RPE, Year 7 explored the ideas of ancient Greek philosopher Protagoras, who believed that our experiences shape how we see the world. Using playdough, pupils created objects inspired by words such as loud, sweet, exciting and happy, interpreting each in their own way. Their creations showed how differently people can understand the same idea, prompting thoughtful discussions about perspective and reminding pupils that there is often more than one way of seeing things.

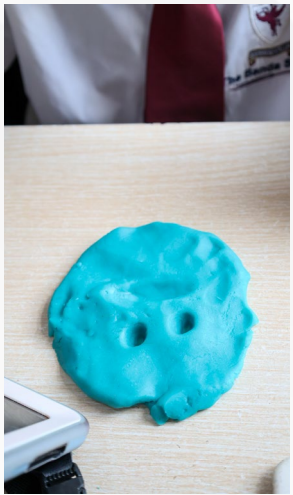
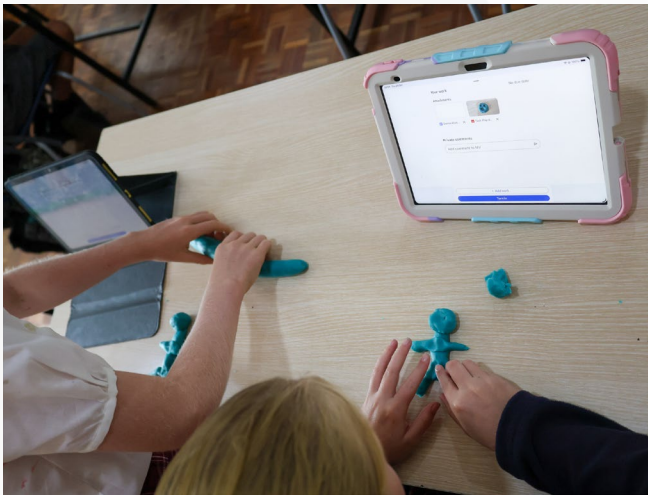










YEAR 6

Year 6 have been busy creating volcano models and posters for the Banda Volcano Competition. Each pupil chose either a shield or composite volcano, creating a cross-section to show its structure and explain how it forms. They used a variety of materials, including cardboard, plasticine, play dough, papier-mâché and plastic bottles, with some also researching additional features. The creativity and effort have been fantastic! The work is on display outside the Geography room, upstairs in the Subject Centre, so do take a look. The winners will be announced next week, with two pupils from each class receiving a Head's Award.







YEAR 5

Year 5 have been developing their mathematical skills through a range of topics, including ratios, fractions and division using the bus stop method. They have been applying different strategies to solve problems and strengthen their understanding of key mathematical concepts.

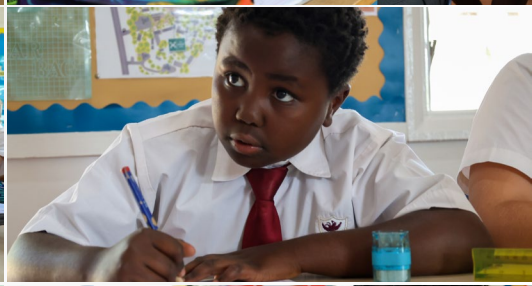
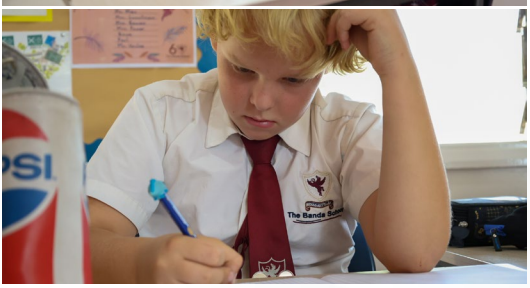
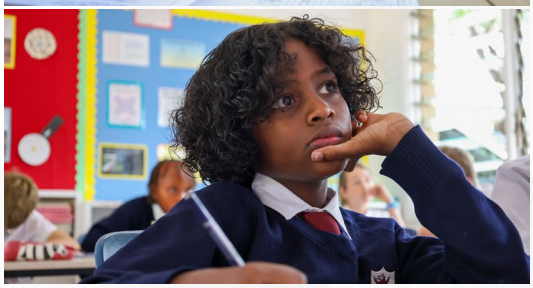


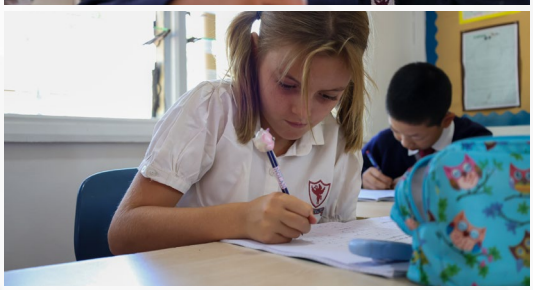


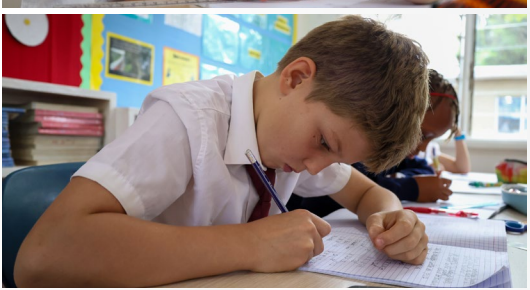














Year 5

Year 5
Year 6

Year 6

Year 5

£5.71
£8.93
5.59
+3.50
9.09
Year 5

Year 5

Fractions

Fractions

Year 6
Year 7

Year 6
Year 7

Year 8

Addition +


Year 8


Word of the Week

JUNIOR

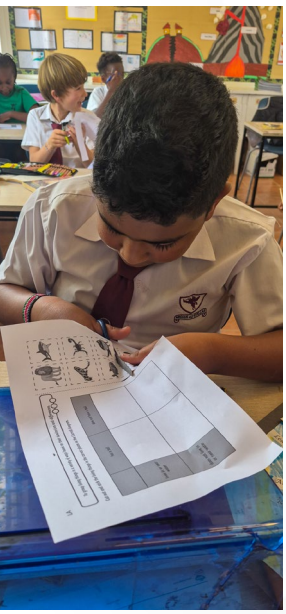
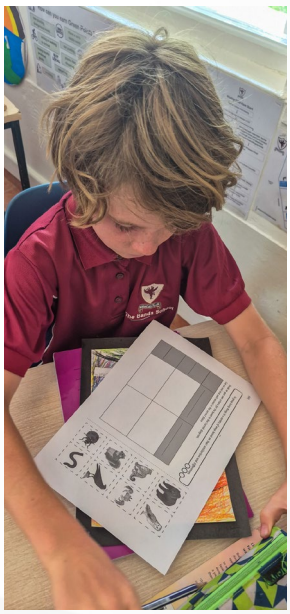
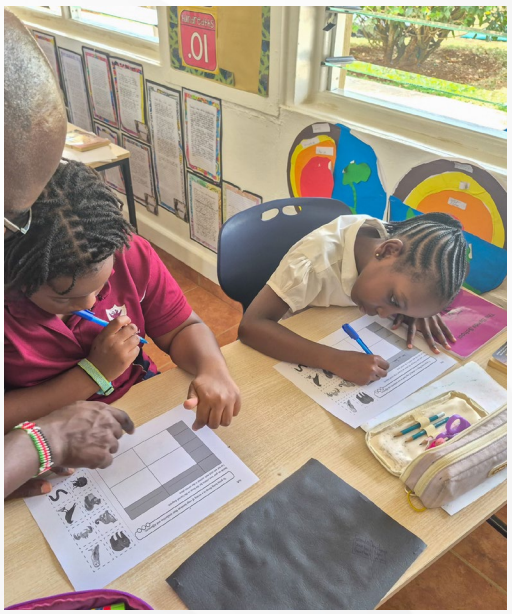
Baffle

To confuse someone.

CHALLENGE: ADD THIS WORD TO YOUR WRITING THIS WEEK!

YEAR 4

The Year 4s have been learning about classification of species. This week they had to create a Carrolls diagram to classify all their learning.






YEAR 3 TRIP TO KAMILI DESIGNS

Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their recent trip to Kamili Designs, where they learned about local businesses and textile production. They had great fun taking part in hands-on activities, including colour mixing, screen printing and fabric painting. The children asked thoughtful questions about running a small business and shared their own ideas for new fabric designs. They returned to school buzzing with excitement and can't wait to see their finished products, which will be made into cushion covers.

























YEAR 3

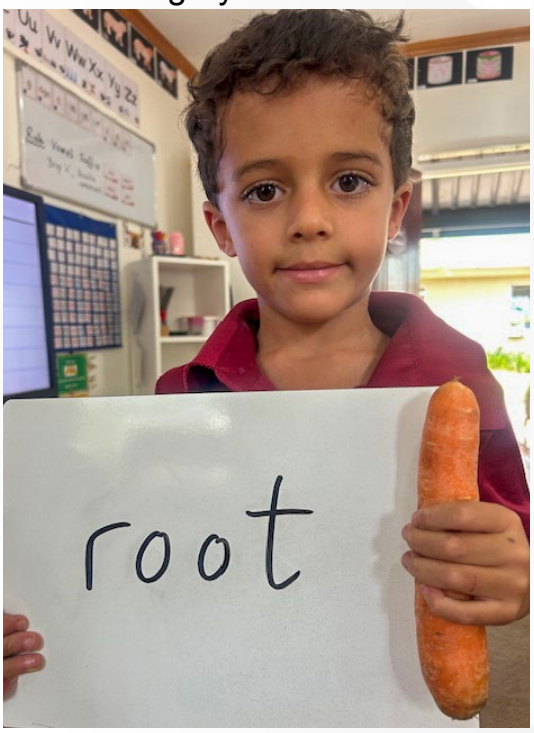
Year 3 have been busy combining History, Science and Numeracy this week. They enjoyed number games to practise their mental addition skills and explored forces by testing how far toy cars travelled across different surfaces. In History, pupils learnt about the Leakey family and their important fossil discoveries in East Africa. Working in teams, they assembled exhibits of the Turkana Boy skeleton and discussed what it tells us about human evolution. They also took on the role of young palaeoanthropologists, carefully excavating, examining and recording their own fossil finds.

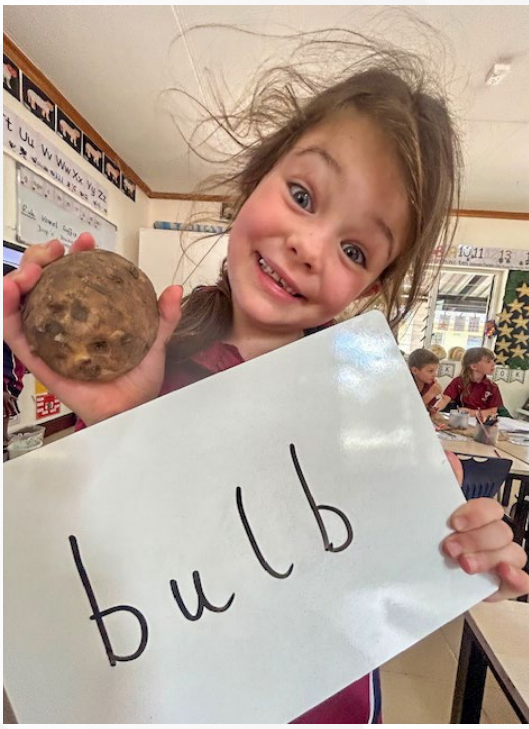


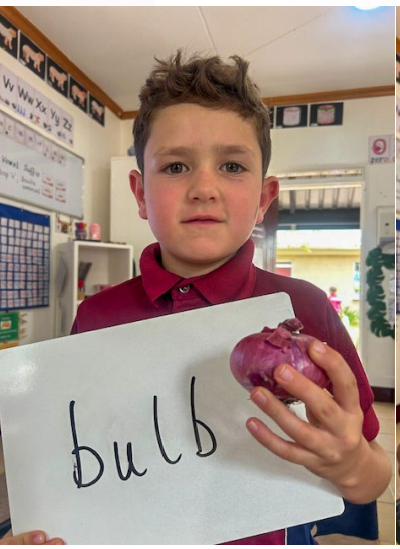
YEAR 2

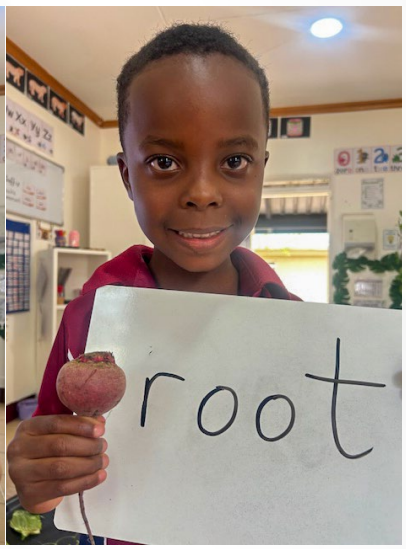
In Science this week we looked at naming the parts of a plant that we eat. We had to sort the vegetables and fruits into the correct category









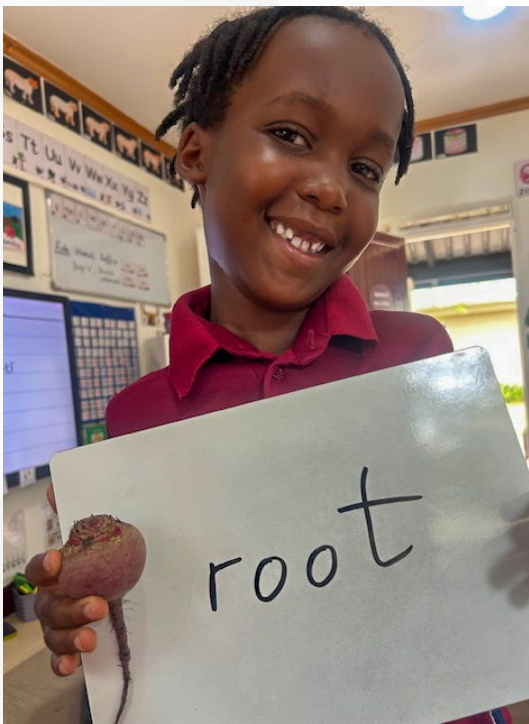












YEAR 1

During our science lesson, the children explored the concept of habitats and participated in a treasure hunt using magnifying glasses. They enjoyed discovering and observing their environment.









Pegasus

Word of the Week

thank you



RECEPTION

After introducing our topic of the term, “All Around the World “, we looked at different facts about Kenya, focusing on the Masai tribe who are famous for their unique culture. Reception pupils then applied their fine motor skills in creating Masai people using pastels, markers and Kanga.






















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NURSERY 2

Nursery 2 had a lively reading of Julia Donaldson and Catherine Rayner's Story "The Go-Away Bird". Children had to put their creativity and fine motor skills to work in a fun, story-inspired cookery activity. They combined storytime with interactive food art, exploring fresh fruits and vegetables in a fun, engaging, and delicious learning experience. They explored the life cycle of a bird by creating a picture of how a bird grows from an egg in a nest to a chick, a fledgling, and finally an adult. The tuff tray exploration was epic!



NURSERY 1

This week Nursery 1 had a fantastic time exploring the classic rhyme “Incy Wincy Spider”! The children sang along, moved to the rhythm, and got creative by using their own handprints to make adorable spiders. It was a wonderful week filled with music, motor skills, and lots of hands-on fun!



RISING STARS

It was The Beach Experience for the Rising Stars. We love water!

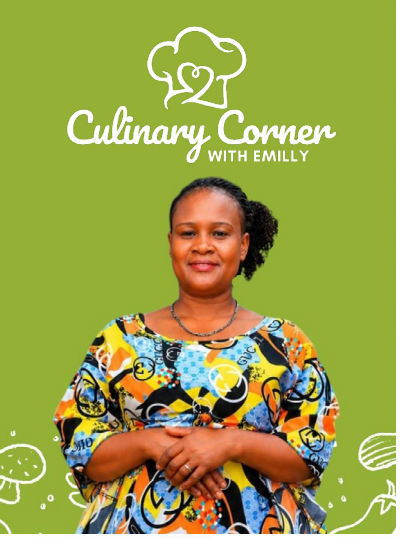












Recipe to Try at Home

Vegetable Samosas



Key Ingredients

- 2 potatoes, diced
- 1 carrot, diced
- ½ cup peas
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 tbsp oil
- ½ tsp curry powder
- 12 samosa pastry sheets
- 2 tbsp flour mixed with water
- Oil for frying
- Salt and pepper

Method

1. Boil the potatoes and carrots until soft. Add peas and drain.
2. Fry the onion in oil, add curry powder and vegetables, then season and cool.
3. Fill the pastry sheets and fold into triangles. Seal with flour paste.
4. Fry until golden and crispy. Ask an adult to help with the hot oil.

WEEK 10 MENU	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MORNING BREAK	Cucumber Sandwiches Fresh Fruit	Potato Veg Balls Carrot Sticks	Vanilla Cookies Fresh Fruit	Tomato Sandwiches Fresh Fruit	Cheese Straws Cucumber Sticks
LUNCH: SOUP			Carrot Soup		
MAINS	Mince Pasta Bake	Mexican Chicken Fajitas	Jacket Potatoes with a Variety of Toppings	Hungarian Beef Goulash	Honey BBQ Chicken Gravy Lyonnaise Potatoes
VEGGIE	Vegetable Pasta Bake	Veg Quesadillas GF Wraps	Jacket Potatoes with a Variety of Toppings	Chana Daal	Garlic Paneer Bread Fingers GF & Vegan Patties
SIDES	Crunchy Seasonal Veg Assorted Salads	Salsa Sauce, Guacamole, Lime Cilantro Sauce, Mango Salsa, Cheese & Peppers	Cheese, Eggs, Sweet Corn, Baked Beans, Tomato, Lettuce, Coleslaw, Cucumber	Steamed Rice Ugali Sautéed Spinach	Lyonnaise Potatoes Fresh Seasonal Veg
DESSERT MAIN SCHOOL	Fruit Salad	Vanilla Ice-Cream	Fruit Platter	Apple Flan	Fresh Fruit Platter
DESSERT PEY	Fruit Salad	Natural Yoghurt Honey	Fruit Platter	Apple Slices	Fresh Fruit Platter

SALAD BAR - an assortment of salads is served every day

Lettuce, Tomato, Cucumber, Coleslaw, Carrot Sticks, Beetroot, Quinoa, Grated Cheese, Grated Carrots, Couscous, Two Bean Salad, Pasta Salad, Egg Salad, Roast Chicken, Roast Beef, Avocado

DRESSINGS - Honey Vinaigrette, Cocktail Sauce, Mayonnaise

Menu subject to change. All meats are Halal

NOTICE BOARD







NOTICE BOARD

KENYA ORCHID SOCIETY

PRESENTS ITS

ANNUAL SHOW

Once Upon an ORCHID

29 OCTOBER – 1 NOVEMBER 2026

SARIT EXPO CENTRE
LOITA HALL

THE SHOW INCLUDES

- BEAUTIFUL ORCHID DISPLAYS
- CHILDREN'S ART COMPETITION
- ORCHID PLANT SALES
- LIVE DEMONSTRATIONS & TALKS

ADMISSION

KSh 500 PER PERSON

CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS FREE

OPENING HOURS

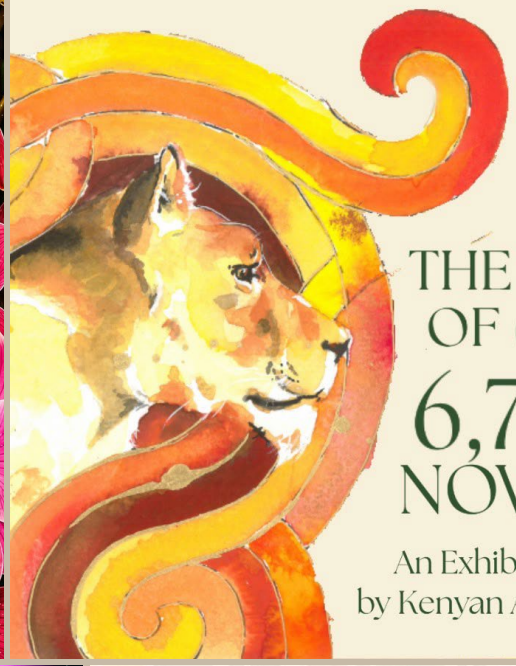
THURSDAY	10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
FRIDAY	10:00 AM – 8:00 PM
SATURDAY	10:00 AM – 5:30 PM
SUNDAY	10:00 AM – 3:30 PM

FOLLOW US

Kenya Orchid Society | Kenya Orchid Society

THE FIG & OLIVE





THE STUFF OF OF (wild) LIFE

6,7&8th NOVEMBER

An Exhibition of Artworks by Kenyan Artist Mhairi Tatton

MATTEO'S EVENTS

THE JUNGLE BODY KENYA MEGA CLASS



SWEAT & SPARKLE

FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

6PM REGISTRATION for a 7PM START

THEME: 80s REMIXED AEROBICS

Tickets: 2000 KSH

INCLUDES WELCOME DRINK AND WORKOUT

PAYBILL: 5345074
Acc: Name + MATTEOS



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NOTICE BOARD

International School of Kenya
Empowering students to create solutions for tomorrow's challenges

Welcome to the International School of Kenya's Open Day 2026

Join us for an extraordinary day of exploration and discovery, where education goes beyond the conventional, and learning knows no bounds.

Date: November 17, 2026
Time: 8:30 - 11:45 a.m.
Location: International School of Kenya Campus

- **Immersive Campus Tours:** Explore inspiring spaces and witness innovative teaching methods.
- **Divisional Presentations:** Uncover our visionary approach to education.
- **Connect with Community:** Network with parents, students, faculty, and administration.

To register for the Open Day, scan the QR code to complete the RSVP Form by no later than November 12, 2026.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF KENYA 50 Years 1976 - 2026 ROARING WITH PRIDE

BEYOND EDUCATION



Have a lovely weekend!