



# BROOKHOUSE SCHOOLS RUNDA BULLETIN

BULLETIN NUMBER 9

5<sup>th</sup> March 2019



## From The Director...

This week's servant leader is a model of diplomacy - a woman of great insight, formidable wit and a career diplomat. Madeleine Albright (born 1937) emigrated from Czechoslovakia to the USA as a child, earned her PhD from Columbia and went on to become America's first woman Secretary of State. She is renowned for being a straight talker and her diplomatic skills were matched by her forthright opinions. In the coming week we have the rounds of the annual Inter-House debates, and it reminds me of the importance of our students having strong public speaking skills. I want our children to grow up confident to express their opinions - with humility, with respect for others and with the ability to articulate their views with intelligence and passion.

- Mr O'Connor, Director

SERVANT LEADER



“

*No matter what message you are about to deliver somewhere, whether it is holding out a hand of friendship, or making clear that you disapprove of something, is the fact that the person sitting across the table is a human being, so the goal is to always establish common ground*

Madeleine Albright

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## From the Head Teacher...

Saturday's event opened my mind to the real learning possibilities that exist with Lego. It's clear that Lego – and in particular the 'missions' of the First Lego League competition - enables tomorrow's innovators to practise imaginative thinking and team work. It also challenges each team to research a real world problem and to develop a solution. Most impressively, each team designed, built and programmed a robot using Lego Mindstorms technology and competed on a playing field for which they had been practising for weeks before the competition. They needed to apply Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics – so-called STEM skills – as well as developing critical thinking, team-building abilities and confidence in presentation.

- Mrs Gilbert, Head Teacher



## Changes to the Calendar...

Dear Parents,

Kindly note that we are gradually implementing a change to our academic calendar, one that is necessitated by the examination boards having gradually shifted the examination season. In this regard, I have attached the term dates for the next academic year (September 2019 - August 2020) to assist with your forward planning. Please see the attachment for further details.

- Mr O'Connor, Director

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK



*Welcome to the Atelier*

## Last week...

Our academic focus was on Year 9 and 10 who undertook their Mid-Year Assessments. Meanwhile, Year 7 went to Naivasha on Wednesday for their Geography field trip and the sporting calendar continued with Hockey fixtures in U11 and an U9 Hockey tournament. We also hosted our own mixed football tournament in this same age group on Friday, so it was a busy couple of days of sport. On Friday, we enjoyed hosting feeder kindergartens for our Year 1 Arts Festival where a range of activities were enjoyed, culminating in a joint performance in the Assembly Hall. It was a lovely event to round off a busy week.

## Over the weekend...

On Saturday, we had the unique honour of hosting competitors for the First Lego League competition 2019 for East Africa at our Runda campus. There were 340 junior and senior Lego enthusiasts and innovators in total, accompanied by their teachers, coaches and a number of parents. We could not have managed such a large event without the enthusiastic contributions and organisational skills of our staff on the Runda and Karen campuses. I am particularly grateful to Mr Raj, who leads the STEM project at Karen and Mr Wood who is the STEM Leader at Runda.



*Welcome to the Atelier*



*Winners of the Environment Day Poster Competition*

## This week...

We look forward to our Annual Book Week which coincides with World Book Day which takes place globally this coming Thursday. As part of this event, we welcome broadcaster and Brookhouse parent Caroline Mutoko to inspire our students on the theme 'Reading is Power'. Other highlights of the week include our book character dress-up day on Thursday. Also this week, the first rounds of our Inter-House Debating competition, a tea-time concert for Year 1 – 3, a Year 10 Business Studies trip, and a session with visiting artist and print-maker, John Silver. On Friday at 7.30am we look forward to this term's Mother's Breakfast, whilst, on the same day, Year 10 head off to Malewa to join the rest of Brookhouse Year 10 for a couple of days of service learning.

*- Mrs Gilbert, Head Teacher*



## News from the ELS...

Both the Ateliers were resplendent last Thursday with the displays of Reggio Emilia inspired artwork. Each child is born with an innate need to explore their surrounding using various materials. I am pleased to see the range of skills and sheer creative endeavour in our little ones!



On Friday our annual Young Arts Festival kicked off with over 50 children from different Kindergartens participating. It involved a schedule of various activities such as Zumba, Young Engineers Lego, STEAM, Art, Storytelling and Music. Each group rotated around these fun sessions and we all came together at the end for a final performance from each school. It was a morning filled with delight and excitement.

- Mrs Hunjan-Patel, Head of ELS



## KEY DATES FOR THE WEEK

### ● BOOK WEEK

● **Wed 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>** Secondary Inter-House Debating Rounds

● **Thur 7<sup>th</sup>**

World Book Day: "dress as favourite book character"

U9 A Boys v Premier (home)

U9 A & B Girls v Premier (home)

Tea Time Concert (Y1-3)

● **Fri 8<sup>th</sup>** Mother's Breakfast (CM/LG), 7.30am

● **Fri 8<sup>th</sup>** Nairobi Academy U6 Football Tournament

● **Fri 8<sup>th</sup>-Sun 10<sup>th</sup>** Year 10 Joint Malewa trip (MW)



## Sports Update...

We had an exciting week of sport. Our students represented the school for the first time in the KAISO tournaments. The U9 boys and girls were at St Christopher's on Thursday and the U11 girls were away on the weekend at Braeburn Garden Estate and U11 boys at Nairobi Academy. All teams played well, demonstrating the progress they have made during this term. All the students displayed great teamwork and tenacity throughout the matches.



On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March, we had the privilege of hosting 200 students in our first ever U9 Mixed Football tournament. The event was well-attended and enjoyed by all the students. The winners of the tournament were Rusinga School. Well done to all our students who played very well.

- Mr Martyn, Sport Leader



## LEGO Firsts...

On Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March we welcomed over 340 competitors from all over East Africa for the First Lego League and Junior First Lego League Regional Championships. Brookhouse Runda proved the perfect host for such an international event and many commented on the excellent facilities on show. Brookhouse Karen teams performed fantastically on the day, picking up two awards for winning their categories, and the main prize went to Alliance Girls School. Full credit to them and it's great to see teams of young, Kenyan engineers representing East Africa.

- Mr Wood, STEAM Leader



## Young Geographers

Last week Year 7 Geography students set off for a joint residential trip to Naivasha with our Karen Campus students. The trip presented the learners with eye-opening opportunities as they were able to appreciate conservation, wildlife, physical features and socio-economic activities that take place in both the parks and the surrounding environment, as part of their fieldwork studies.

- Mr Motanya and Ms Bidali, Humanities Department