Dear parents and pupils,

It is only two more weeks and the long awaited for christmas holidays will begin. Until then, we still have exams and tests to be written and I wish all the participants success and strength in their eagerness.

At the same time, we would like to enjoy the different events set for this Christmas season, but which considering its summer in Kenya………

Exceptional school achievements

The school family is happy and proud of:

Alexandra Kern, Cl. 13, a Viola player, who has been with the Nairobi Orchestra for sometime and recently appeared in two concerts playing exceptionally well for the 60th year Jubilee celebrations. Well done!

Ricardo Böheim, Cl.12, who received approval as a good candidate for study sponsorship from the teaching team of „Akademie Rostock“, where he attended a summer camp. Best of luck!

Looking back!

Peer Review (03. – 05.11.)

Dear parents and pupils,

The Peer review ended! Mrs. Biegel, Mr. Ehler and Mr Mai from the German Embassy School in Addis Abeba/Ethiopia, looked at the school and gave very positive feedback orally in their preliminary report made in the library on the 05.11.09. They recommended further improvement possibilities regarding the evaluation question. The detailed evaluation report will probably be distributed among the staff shortly before the Christmas break. Many thanks once again to all participants who cooperated in the Peer review.
Further outlook:
The "Qualitätsrahmen für Deutsche Schulen im Ausland" (quality frame for German Schools abroad) carry out a survey every two years to see the elevation of school satisfaction from parents, pupils and teachers. The last time this was done was during the SEIS-elevation survey in November 2006 and now the new one is due. During the first week of December 2008, GSN will give a questionnaire to parents, pupils and teachers for comments on further developments in the school satisfaction observed since the last questionnaire. The results will then be compiled and you will be informed.

There will be an educational day on the 17.01.09, shortly after we start the new year, where the GSN team will work on a detailed plan on the theme: Bund-Länder-Inspektion (BLI) (German states inspection). The inspection is planned for January 2010 and therefore needs a lot of preparation to make it successful. As the lessons will still continue during these inspections, the educational day will also work on measures to be taken so as to optimise the daily lessons effectively.

In this school year, with the school partnership with Nairobi Academy, the establishment of the Method curriculum and the Kiswahili extra curriculum classes has gone well. The newly planned "Entwicklung eines schulinternen Curriculums zu einheimischen (kenianischen)" (development of an integrated school curriculum for Kenyan pupils) and the special recognition of pupils in their work, inside and outside the classrooms for the elementary school classes is in preparation.

Should you have any further questions or queries, please leave your email address with the receptionist and I will get in touch.

Harald Mink
School development coordinator

Lantern parade (11.11.) (by Mathias Haße)

The kindergarten and the elementary school celebrated the St. Martin Festival on the 11.11.
A large number of children and parents attended. First they were entertained by a performance of St. Martin's life by class 4 under the supervision of Mrs. Schuler.

With the break of celebration, the lanterns were lit, and they put out the darkness with their flames. A long singing parade led by St. Martin on his horse, this year played by Mrs. Theilen wound its way around the school compound arriving at the St. Martin's fire. Traditional songs were sung, with the accompaniment of the guitar and the "breadmen" shared among the children. The guests were also catered for by the boarding house with sausages and drinks.
This is how the lovely St. Martin’s festival looked like, lit by only the lanterns and the fire. A lot of thanks to all those who helped make this festival successful and a high point in this school year!

**Examination day for the outstanding sponsorship pupils (15.11.)**
The exams for the outstanding sponsorship pupils took place on the 15.11.08. From the 265 applicants, 30 were chosen and invited to sit for mathematics, English and general studies tests. 9 of the successful ones chosen will start an intensive German language course at the school after the Christmas holidays. We wish them all a lot of success and fun in learning.

**Parents consultations (19.11.)**
The newly integrated parents consultation day was well attended by the parents.

**Read aloud day (27.11.)**
This school year Kristin, Miriam and Jonas of Class 5 read aloud to the class 1 children from the book „Emil und die Detektive“ . Franziska, Konstantin, Marie, Niklas and Victoria of Class 6 brought their own books and read to Class 2 children. Tabita and Victoria of Class 7 read to Class 3, Evelyn and Malena of class 8 read to class 4.

**Preview**

**Nikolaus in the Kindergarten (05.12.)**

For sure, St. Nicholas will not forget to bring presents to our young ones in the Kindergarten!

**Christmas concert in Tigoni (07.12.)**
Just like the year before, the traditional Christmas concert of the German School will take place on the second advent Sunday. Choirs, school orchestra and a mixed Christmas program will be performed in tigoni at the benedictine Monastery. Come and be surprised this Christmas season. You are most welcome!

Beachvolleyball-Tournament (09.12.)

As the opening of the Beach volleyball place brought much fun to many, we would also like to meet on Tuesday the 09.12: for games, sets and victory to ……………?!

Christmas celebrations (11.12.)

With our traditional Christmas celebrations, we want to get in the mood of the spiritual time of Christmas and to ring out the last day before the holidays. Therefore, dear parents, we would like to invite you to the Sports hall at 10:30am.

News from the board (by Herrn Iten)

Building project:
- Different quotations were received and one accepted for the renovation of the boarding house roof. The work will commence during the Christmas holidays.
- A better* heater* for the swimming pool is under consideration. A complete solar system costs approximately 15000 Euros. In the meantime, we have decided to try out another method. By repeatedly cleaning the solar panels, covering the pool and immediate repair of the heating pipes will ensure better water temperatures, which we will keep monitoring.

Playground equipment:
- The evaluation for the playground equipment is complete. As well as finding an expert to install the equipment, it has already been ordered and the transport is being arranged.

PR and Marketing:
- A committee for PR and Marketing was formed and the first marketing plans outlined. The committee consists of Burghard Brinksmeier, Christina Niehaus, Christine Buchheit, Claudia Theilen, Karin Hägmark, Lutz Niemann, Peter Böheim, Siegfried Schmerbeck, Thomas Iten and Wim Dohrenbusch, who have chosen to work with these themes: websites, School look, sponsorship, press and events.

Finances:
- The board will support the administration in the future settings of the fees structure so that they are sound.
We would like once again to inform you that, it was not possible for the school fees to be increased before the Annual General Meeting took place, which was in October. That is why you have received an extra invoice covering the increase decided upon during the meeting.

**The Stage Parents’ Council reports:**
In future, a brief report by the SPC will be included in the “Newsletter”. In the first edition we should briefly explain the role played by the SPC and other bodies in the organizational structure of the DSN. This may be appreciated especially by parents who joined the school community recently.

The DSN is run by the German School Society. A Board elected by the members of the “Society” is responsible for long-term planning and monitoring. All parents are members of this “Society”. The Board collaborates closely with the management of the school, which means the directors and the administration, which itself supports the teachers in implementing the teaching programme effectively. A steering group for developing learning methods and the education conference are tools to develop the learning process. Teachers can articulate their general concerns through the Teachers’ Council. Now let us have a look at the direct and indirect beneficiaries of the whole setting, the students and their parents. Students can express their views and opinions through the Students’ Council. The General Parents’ Council (GPC) serves the purpose of informing parents about progress and constraints and communicating their ideas and wishes. It is composed of 2 parents’ representatives of each class and meets twice or three times per year with representatives of School Management, Board, teachers, and students. In its first meeting of the school year it selects one to 2 parents’ representatives of each education stage to form the Stage Parents’ Council (SPC). The SPC takes care of special events, recurrent tasks and communication between the different bodies. It meets once per month, distributes tasks, and forms task forces if needed. Your representatives in the SPC and their main areas of responsibility are:

- Mrs. Hittmeyer (Chairperson of the SPC & Dep. Chairperson of GPC/Gesamtkonferenz); Mr Tenambergen (Chairman of the GPC/Contacts to Board & Management);
- Mrs. Buchheit (KIGA/Marketing & Information); Mrs. Czempinski (Primary School-K3/Learning programm); Mrs. Pauli von Gemmingen (Primary School-K4/Steering group); Mr Palka (Junior Secondary School-K5/Infrastructure);
- Mrs. Holstein (Senior Secondary School-K8/Cultural exchange programme); Mrs. Roser (Senior Secondary School-K10/International students)

Each body is responsibly executing its tasks but a continuous flow of information between the bodies is important to assure interest and joy in cooperation among all those concerned. The process is developing well. Representatives of parents and teachers join the meetings of the Board, the SPC participates in meetings of the Steering Group and the Education Conference, the board is represented in the meetings of the SPC and also students can join. The minutes of SPC-meetings are distributed to all parents’ representatives, who forward summaries to all parents of their respective classes.

The SPC encourages all parents to forward questions, wishes, observations, complaints, and suggestions to its members. We shall try to feed contributions carefully and effectively into the organizational process of the school.

Now, there is only little space left for reporting. Let us therefore mention only 3 examples of activities of the SPC in this edition of the Newsletter:

- Improvement of discipline in the buses by talking to parents and drivers
- Contribution to the new marketing concept of DSN
- **Let’s dance** – on 6.2.2009; organization of a dance party for “adults”

**General information**

**Allowance for the renovations of the Cafeteria and the boarding house kitchen**
The central offices of the German schools abroad have contributed 23,500 Euros towards the renovations of the cafeteria and the boarding house kitchen. The school is also expected to put in the same amount of money towards this project.

**Central final exams for Classes 9 and 10**
In a written report from the Cultural ministers office, all German school abroad must sit for the central final exams by the school year 2009/2010. This concerns the “Hauptschueler” (pupils not fulfilling the
requirements of a „Realschule“ and completing their schooling at Class 9. “Realschüler” (pupils not fulfilling the requirements of a high school, but have a chance to continue on to high school under certain requirements) and „Gymnasium“ (high school). So as to be well prepared, the school will offer these exams this year to any pupil who would like to do them voluntarily. This is done so that the parents, pupils and teachers can gain confidence and trust in the exams.

The following subjects will be tested on:
Hauptschüler of Class 9 – Mathematics
Realschüler of Class 10 – German, English
Gymnasialschüler of Class 10 – German, English and Mathematics

Magazines for our Library
Since the middle of October, our library has been receiving weekly the magazines „Der Spiegel“, „Stern“ and „FAZ“. Mr. Olker, the Nairobi regional manager of Lufthansa-Cargo procured and arranged the delivery of these magazines for free. We are most thankful.

Leaving of the school grounds for pupils of Age 18 years and above
A decision was arrived at during the teacher’s school conference to allow the pupils who are 18 years and above to leave the school grounds during their “real” free hour. They still have to identify themselves at the gate. This rule does not apply during break times and the self-studying hours.

Parking in the school compound after 7:00pm
Parking in the school compound after 7:00pm for pupils without being accompanied by a parent is not allowed, unless there is an evening event taking place. The boarding house pupils should inform the security guards.

Driving in the school compound
I would like to request the parents and pupils to please be careful and use only walking speed while driving in the school compound.

Dropping and collecting children by car
Please remember to drop and collect your child only outside the sports hall and not where the buses are parked.

Christmas cards
These Christmas cards are folded and have interesting and colourful motives that were created by Class 6 during one of their art classes. You can purchase them at the reception.

Christmas holidays
The Christmas holidays start from Monday the, 15.12.2008, and end on Friday the, 09. 01.2009. The lessons resume on Monday the 12.01.2009.
Sport news

Kasarani-Leichtathletik-Wettbewerb
(by Heiko Sehrig)

Kasarani Athletics competitions

The yearly international athletics competitions took place in Kasarani on the 22.11.08. Our school was represented by some athletes. Together with the girls and boys relays, our school also took part in the triple jump, long jump, javelin throwing, 400m race and 100m sprint. We congratulate all these athletes for their successful participation.
A special effort was made by Andre Czikl, who took part in the 400m race in the finals.

Also present were:
Evelyn Kleffmann, Eliana Hörder, Mireille Schmerbeck, Dorothea Rothe, André Czikl, Mohamed Daoud, Christian Karl und Mark Stoyke.
International School Football League
The DSN Team was in the 10th position in this years Football League:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table-standings</th>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>PLAYED</th>
<th>WON</th>
<th>LOST</th>
<th>DRAWN</th>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Rosslyn</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Hillcrest A</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Brookhouse</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Strathmore</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>RVA</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>ISK</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Peponi</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>St. Christopher's</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Swedish</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>German</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Braeburn</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Oshwal</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>Hillcrest B</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3 pts 0 pts 1 pt

Inter-Kindergarten Soccer Tournament (by Bernard Nalisi)

This soccer tournament was founded by coach Bernard Nalisi of the German School and coach James Muiruri of Montessori Learning Centre in the year 2006 with only four schools participating. The schools which participated in 2006 were German School, Potterhouse, International Christian Kindergarten and Montessori Learning Centre. Through the years, the matches have been an attraction to the young children since it helps them to make friends as they play the ball.
On November 19th 2008, German School hosted the third kindergarten soccer tournament which attracted eight schools namely: German School, Potterhouse, Kabete Junior, International Kindergarten, Green-gates, Montessori Learning Centre, Little Schools and Nairobi Academy. Montessori Learning Centre won the tournament for the second time and took the trophy which they will defend in January 2009.

Advert

As with all previous examples, Phoenix Safaris have taken over the complete photocopying costs of the attached advertising pages of the newsletter. A big thank you for the cost-saving help!

Calendar dates

**December**

- **Fr 05.12.** 05.00 pm  St. Nicholas in the Kindergarten (Mrs. Böheim)
- **Su 07.12.** 04.00 pm  Christmas concert in Tigoni
- **Tu 09.12.** 05.00 pm  Beachvolleyball-Tournament
- **Tu 09.12.** 06.00 pm  4th Board meeting (Round table)
- **Th 11.12.** 10.30 am  School’s Christmas celebrations
- **Fr 12.12.** Jamhuri day (no lessons)
- **Mo 15.12. 2008 to Fr 09.01.2009** Christmas holidays
- **Tu 23.12.** 04.00 pm  Former students meeting (Mrs. Dr. Schärer)

**January 2009**

- **Tu 13.01.** 06.00 pm  Personal committee meeting
- **We 14.01.** 02.15 pm  International schools headmasters meeting (French, Swedish, Dutch and Japanese Schools) at the French School
- **Sa 17.01.** Educational day
- **We 21.01.** Globall (at the GSN)
- **Mo 26.01.** 06.00 pm  5th Board meeting
- **Th 29.01.** 02.00 pm  Conference on school reports-elementary school (Mr Haße)

**February**

- **Tu 03.02.** 02.00 pm  Conference on school reports Cl. 5-8
- **We 04.02.** 02.00 pm  Conference on school reports Cl. 9-13
- **We 04.02.** 02.00 pm  Reifeprüfungskonferenz nach § 16 (Zulassung zur Schriftlichen Reifeprüfung)
- **Th 05.02.** Swimming gala
- **Fr 06.02.** 07.00 pm  Handing out of the school half year reports
- **Fr 06.02.** 07.00 pm  School ball
I wish you dear parents, and you dear pupils a happy and spiritual Christmas holiday. All the best and much success in the new year, excitement for everything new but also much joy in the daily little things.

Siegfried Schmerbeck
Headmaster