

# HEADS UP

## A Weekly News Update from the Principal and Heads of School

Friday, 14 December 2012

Volume 9 Issue 11

### PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

I guess the old adage that 'time flies when you are having fun' must have some truth in it, as it seems like only yesterday that we were opening the gates for the start of another school year. And yet in the blink of an eye a large part - nearly 45% - of the school year has passed and we are now about to break for the Christmas holidays.

Regulars to Heads Up will have seen that it has been an extremely busy couple of months and I am tremendously grateful to everyone involved in making it so successful. The number of activities, whether in Primary or Secondary, inside or outside of the classroom have been numerous and too many to mention individually but it has been a pleasure and honour to witness many of them all.

Having had a quick look at the calendar I am certain that the second half of the school year will be just as busy! However, before then I am sure everyone is looking forward to a well-earned rest and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and I look forward to welcoming you back in January 2013.

*Dr Glenn Canterford*



## **Wanted! Musical Instruments**



Do you have musical instruments that aren't used anymore; hidden in back closets, under beds? Please consider donating to St Andrew's Secondary School instrumental programme. Woodwind, Brass, String and Percussion, old or new, shiny or bruised; we will happily accept all donations and put them to good use.



# SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

From the IB Coordinator

Selamat Hari Natal  
Blunya Na Wo  
Joyeux Noël

I would like to start by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It is hard to believe that 2012 is rapidly coming to an end and while I reflect on the year I am in awe of what has been accomplished.

Even with only a few days of this term left we still have our students stepping up to the plate to help those in need. As you are probably aware The Seahorse Institute had an electrical fire recently, resulting in them needing a new venue until their building is rebuilt. We immediately offered a team of IB students to go and clean up and decorate. Although too much work needs to be done before we can go in, I've got a team of volunteers all ready to jump into action.

I was also impressed with Nathan Cates and Mr Thibault's Business class as they have pledged, to the Seahorse Institute, the \$500 voucher that Nathan won for the BFSB Speech competition (as mentioned last month). We will be formally presenting this next week. Dr Canterford has also pledged to match this donation. It surely is the season of good will.



In June I wrote about "The Other Side of CAS" and how a group of IB students and Miss Phillips met some very famous people while helping at a high profile golf tournament. This month saw The Second Bahamas Speed Week and as you know we built a box kart that was put on display during the event. While I was there, we were given access to the Paddock and much to my delight I found the SAS Hurricane parked next to Sir Sterling Moss' car. Not only was it next to the number 1 car but sitting inside was Sir Sterling and his wife, just about to go off and do the Hill Climb. We patiently and eagerly awaited their return. Upon their return, they found time to chat to me; I even got Sir Sterling, who I have admired for four decades, to sign our Kart. Even at my age, CAS can still produce personal rewards.



Next week we should find out how we did in the competition.

Paul Toomer

## From the Upper School Dean

### **YEAR 11 BGCSE EXAMINATIONS**

Thank you, parents/guardians, sending in payment to meet our deadline for the BGCSE Registration.

BGCSE Mock exams will begin January 7 to January 16<sup>th</sup>; schedules can be found on Edline.

During the BGCSE Mock exams, Year 11 students are only required to come to school when they have an exam. However students who wish to come to school to study in the library or meet with teachers for review may do so.

Please encourage the students to prepare fully for the exams.

If you have any concerns or questions please e-mail or call me.

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR YEAR 12 STUDENTS!!!**

The following students will be recognized at the Annual National Examination Awards Presentation & Exhibition which will be held at the Church of God Auditorium, Joe Farrington Road, on Thursday, January 17 2013 at 10:00 am. They will be awarded certificates for receiving five or more 'A's in the BGCSE examinations this past June.

Nathan Cates  
Harrison Collins  
Anna Deal  
Alexander Hawkins  
Eleanor Hawkins  
Natishka Johnson  
Jonathan Lockhart  
Madison Pinder  
Trent Strachan

Three of our students will receive special recognition for SUBJECT AWARDS – ANNA DEAL, ELEANOR HAWKINS, NATHAN CATES.

### **INTER – HOUSE TALENT COMPETITION**

On Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, some of our students will take to the stage to compete in the Talent Segment of the Inter-House competitions. Students should come to school in their House shirt and long trousers to support their houses. This is a great way for us to show our SCHOOL SPIRIT -----

GO ARAWAK!!  
GO CARIB!!  
GO LUCAYAN!!  
GO TAINO !!

GO.....HURRICANES!!

### **BAISS BASKETBALL**

Our teams have had a good start to the Basketball games over the past 2 weeks; no games were held this week but will continue in January. Please come out to support our Junior Girls, Junior Boys and Senior Girls.

## **SECONDARY CAR PARK**

Parents/Guardians please do not drop students off in the Secondary Car Park. The drive way is very narrow and only allows for a one-way traffic.

## **EDLINE**

The next Edline update is Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup>. Upper School reports will be sent home electronically in January 2013.

## **SCHOOL FOR PARENTS IN FEBRUARY**

Our next SCHOOL FOR PARENTS will be held in February, 2013.

## **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Our student leaders met last week and this week to address the problem of “litter” around the campus. It was nice to see the three councils together: Primary School, Middle School, and Upper School. The students engaged in lively discussion led by Mrs. Sarah- Jean Green and Ms. Mary Knowles. In January, they will begin to work on their strategies to combat our litter problem around the campus.

## **PSAT EXAMS**

Year 10 students who sat the PSAT Exams in October this year will receive their results next week before we break for the Christmas Holidays.

ENJOY THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS....Don't worry about eating too much over the holidays because the SCHOOL RUN is right around the corner on January 11<sup>th</sup>.....you can “run” those extra pounds off.

*Michele Robinson*

## From the Middle School Dean

The opportunity to represent The Bahamas at the recent IOC/UNESCO World Conference Sport, Education and Culture in Amsterdam was an extraordinary privilege and professional experience that allowed me to engage with people from around the globe to exchange ideas, experience and to inspire and learn from each other. Olympism Powered by Youth and Education was the motto of the conference. The UN millennium goals were also incorporated into the conference in the plenary and breakout sessions.

Olympism and millennium goals may sound abstract to some, but in fact it is very day-to-day. Young people and educational institutions like St Andrew's are well equipped to promote the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect and the millennium goals. Olympism and the millennium goals also align very well with the IB Learner Profile and the IB CAS programme.



Lornah Kiplagat and Kathryn Dillette  
IOC World Conference Sport, Education & Culture

The conference was indeed inspiring with high level speakers, Mike Boit, Sebastian Coe, Lornah Kiplagat and many outstanding presentations by young people who are leading exciting community outreach programmes in their home countries with the support of IOC Solidarity and UNESCO grants.

Lornah Kiplagat is a well known Kenyan distance runner and holds multiple world records. Lornah is also known for what she does outside of sport through her foundation that provides education to 300 female students in a Kenyan boarding school, provides opportunities for talented Kenyan female students to study in

Europe and the United States and also to provide information about HIV/AIDS by holding sexual health lessons in schools.

### **Middle School Students Get Caught Volunteering!**

The holiday season is a great time to get in the spirit of giving, help those who are less fortunate and to volunteer in your community! If you volunteer during the holidays, have your photo taken and send it along with a brief outline of your volunteer efforts to the Dean of Middle School [kathryn.dillette@st-andrews.com](mailto:kathryn.dillette@st-andrews.com).

Happy holidays and happy volunteering

### **Whole School Student Council Initiative Targets Litter on the St Andrew's Campus**

The primary, middle and upper school student council representatives have had two meetings to discuss the issue of litter throughout the campus. The first meeting allowed the students to brainstorm ideas for action that can be taken to try and raise awareness and decrease the amount of litter that accumulates daily. The groups came up with many ideas and this week during their second meeting they all voted and have decided on two initiatives that they will take to the rest of the student body in the new year!



### **REMINDER Middle School Reports Trimester 1**

Middle School reports were e-mailed to parents November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

Please make sure that you and your middle school student have reviewed the trimester 1 report and that you have also discussed goals and strategies for improvement in trimester 2 and trimester 3.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Dean of Middle School to schedule a meeting.

All the best to our families, students and other members of the St Andrew's community for a peaceful holiday season. The Middle School looks forward to the New Year and all of the new and exciting learning that students will engage in throughout 2013!

*Kathryn Dillette*



**The primary art teacher wants to help YOU clean out your closets!!**

She is looking for the following items:

- blocks, Lego, or other building toys
- old frames (ugly or broken ones too!)

Please drop off any of these items to the primary art room (room 20 - upstairs primary block).

# PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

**Please Remember: The INFANT SCHOOL is a 'Nut Free' section of the school!**

We express sincere thanks for your efforts in keeping the Early learning Center "Nut Free." **However, it has become necessary to ensure that all classes in the Infant School (Years 2 to Pre School) are nut free.** Parents of Years 1 and 2, please refer to yesterday's letter. We do remind and encourage you to ensure that food items containing nut or nut traces not be included in lunch or snack items sent to school as we do have a number of students with severe allergies to nuts. It is indeed our duty to protect all students from harm while in our care.



## Congratulations D'Arjha

I am very pleased to announce that D'Arjha Davis in Year 4 is being honoured for her outstanding accomplishments in Track and Field during 2012 at the BAAA Annual Awards Luncheon. She has won many events- from the 100 to 200 metre races and represented The Bahamas at the CUT Games during the summer.

## Well done to D'Arjha

We are all very proud of this achievement!

*Peter Wilson*

## Year Five Focuses on World Wide Aid

As a beginning to the transdisciplinary theme 'Sharing the Planet', Yr5 the students experienced 'Deprivation Day.' This was to introduce them to our new Unit of Inquiry - World Wide Aid. In 5P the students discovered that their classroom had no chairs or tables. They had to work on the floor all day! Whilst some were excited at the beginning, the end of the day told a very different story with aching backs and legs! The students saw some real photos of a school in Malawi where children sit on the floor in school every day. They realised that whilst it was a comfortable 'need' you could actually still learn without furniture! Their reflections highlighted empathy for others, with many saying that if other children in the world had to sit on the floor, then so could they!



## MAGIC REINDEER FOOD

**\$2 per bag available at school office**

(all proceeds go to cystic fibrosis)

Cystic Fibrosis is caused by a single faulty gene that controls the movement of salt in the body. In people with Cystic Fibrosis, the internal organs become clogged with thick, sticky mucus resulting in infections and inflammation making it hard to breathe and digest food.

Around half of the CF population can expect to live over 38 years, although improvements in treatments mean a longer. **There is currently no cure for Cystic Fibrosis.** research to find an effective treatment for baby born today could expect to live even is going to be the nearest thing to a cure in

The Cystic Fibrosis Trust funds CF through gene therapy and we believe that this is the foreseeable future.

So what is Reindeer Food and how does it help is a small bag of "magical feed" which can be wrapping for the children to put out on Christmas Eve when he comes through the night sky to leave is \$2 per bag, a small price to ask for in the Fibrosis. **ALL** proceeds are going to the Cystic Fibrosis worth fighting for!



Cystic Fibrosis? Reindeer food purchased in either red or green for Santa's Reindeer's to eat presents for our children. The cost ultimate research for Cystic Trust because this is something

The month is December, the season is festive, please keep the Cystic Fibrosis Trust in your thoughts. If you wish to purchase a bag of reindeer food please send in \$2.00 and your child can purchase a magical sack at school.

Thank you for your ultimate support, I wish you a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year season!

*Lynn M Pritchard*

### **Dates to Remember**

Tuesday Dec. 18 ..... Holiday Celebrations & Santa's Visit

**Wednesday Dec.19 ..... 12:00noon Dismissal for Christmas Break**

**Thursday Jan. 3 ..... School Reopens**

My best to you,

Yvette Simms

# **COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS FROM THE ST ANDREW'S FAMILY**

Please click on a group's link below to view information from the group:

**[PTA News and Events](#)**

**[Health and Safety News and Events](#)**

**[Community News and Events](#)**