



# SAAS

SPONSOR AN AFRICAN SCHOLAR

## ISSUE 13.

### SCHOOLS RE- OPEN

Schools reopened on the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011, for the final term this year. This is always a critical time for all the students as the results they get will determine if they are going to progress to the next class. The form 4's are also studying for their final exams so they have a busy and pressurized term ahead. SAAS would like to take this opportunity to wish them every success in their forthcoming final exams.



**Daniel Otieno receiving his School Fees Cheque.**

### 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CAMP

For the fourth consecutive year SAAS hosted a Maths/Physics Camp for students. Once again this camp proved to be a huge success as all those who attended benefited hugely from the expertise and knowledge of the volunteers who travelled to Kenya to facilitate the camp.

Volunteers came from Ireland and UK to work with our former secondary school students and we would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the tutors, Henry McLoughlin (SAAS Director), Gina Woods (SAAS Director), Dharshini Allirajah, Ursula Redmond, Deirdre Pallot and Aisling Mathews. This was a very special experience for the volunteers who had the rewarding experience of facilitating the camp but also had the opportunity to meet the students they have been sponsoring and see first hand the benefit their sponsorship has brought to the lives of these young people. The subjects Maths, Physics and were chosen for the camp as these are the subjects which the students seem to struggle at school and also the subjects which they told us they find most challenging.

This year the camp took place at Kongowea Primary School and ran for 5 days from the 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> August 2011. This camp has proved to be a massive success with over 350 students attending. We would like to sincerely thank Kongowea Primary School for providing us with the venue and to once again thank all the volunteers who so willingly offered their time and resources.



**Students being Attentive in one of the classes and (Right) David Mashua receiving his Certificate of Participation from Deirdre.**

### FUN DAY!

After the hard work during the SAAS maths camp, the volunteers and SAAS students found time to attend mass at a local church and also went bowling, to the cinema, and dancing. Also, several of our students who have completed hairdressing and beauticians courses gave manicures and pedicures to the female volunteers which was a lovely treat. The students and volunteers also played ballgames on the beach and went swimming. This leisure time was treasured by the volunteers and student alike.



**Gina and Aisling getting a Pedicure and Manicure from Esha and Tabitha andleft, fun day at the Bowling Alley in Holly Wood Bowl, Mombasa**

### **EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION**

24 Fairfield Ave, East Wall, Dublin 3. Email : [info@saas.ie](mailto:info@saas.ie) Web : [www.saas.ie](http://www.saas.ie)  
Directors : Gina Woods, Henry McLoughlin, Dr Fergus Toolan Vat No: IE9579195E Charity No : CHY 17318



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## FAMILY VISITS

On a regular basis, the SAAS staff, Ebby and Maria set time aside out of their day to visit the families of student to check in with them and make sure everything is well in the student's home. Most families live within the Kongowea area where life is very challenging.

SAAS assists many of these families by providing them with basic subsistence and access to free counselling. Often counselling is the most valuable resource to people as many of them had huge traumas to overcome and therefore find counselling a huge source of support and relief.



**Photo of one of the family visits (Akacha Family)**

## SAAS YOUTH GROUP

The SAAS youth group was formed in August 2011. This youth group was formed by SAAS students who have completed their secondary education and are either joining or have joined College and University. The group was formed by SAAS students and other youths within Kongowea region.



The aim of this group is to create a support and friendship group for students through which they can come together and share stories and ideas about their plans for the future.

Amongst the activities in which the group participates is a motivation programme whereby the students go into primary schools and give motivational speeches to primary school children emphasizing the importance of education and creating awareness about dangers of using drugs. In addition to motivational speeches the students also use drama and music as a means of conveying their mission.

The SAAS youths group also volunteered at the annual Maths camp providing organisational support and assistance with cooking and serving.



**Youth Group Photos during one of the visits in Kongowea and Kengeleni Primary School.**

## PRIZE GIVING DAY!

SAAS was also invited to Mombasa Secondary School for the Physically Handicapped where a few of our students attend.

Kennedy Owino a form four student was one of the students who was awarded a prize for the best performing student in his class in 2010.



**Kennedy proudly receiving his prize.**

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## **Trizah's Corner**

### **How Will We Survive?**

Corruption! Corruption Who are your parent? Which country do you belong to? Where is your home?  
How will we survive?

A University student graduates Obtains an honors degree but fails to get a job because of poverty Through corruption the rich are favoured and get the jobs, How will we survive?

Here comes a poor old mama Sitting down sorrowfully with some bananas In Readiness to sell  
There comes a city council officer Snatch money from her Leaving her helpless Through corruption, he dips the money for self use, How will we survive?

Go to hospitals What do you find? A patient is sick, very sick Unable to do anything Through corruption The rich is first served, leaving the patient Almost falling to death, How will we survive?

People of Kenya Let's come together and stand firm To fight for our country To improve our living standards Let us stamp out this vice

**By Trizah Mghanga**

### **COMING SOON**

- ◆ School close for Christmas Holiday
- ◆ Girls Day Together
- ◆ 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Day
- ◆ Visitor from abroad for New Years.
- ◆ 4<sup>th</sup> Class of Computer class ends in November 2011.

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