



SAAS

SPONSOR AN AFRICAN SCHOLAR

ISSUE NO. 12

SCHOOLS RE- OPEN

The new academic year has started and as schools re-opened, all of SAAS's students reported to our office to collect cheques to pay their school fees. We would like to wish all our students the very best as they embark on the next stage of their education.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' DAY SEMINARS

Since SAAS opened its doors, we have never organised a day to allow all the boys we support to come together and discuss the challenges they face every day both at school and at home. This year all that changed!

Whilst all the boys had a great day – enjoying refreshments and a photo session, we also touched on some more serious subjects throughout the day. These included personal health and wellbeing and sex education – focusing on the dangers of drug usage and the risk of contracting HIV or Aids. 4 in 5 youths in Mombasa are directly effected by drugs.



The SAAS boys after their seminar.

The girls had an equally productive day. A lot of the girls we sponsor have low self esteem and this year we decided to tackle this issue. After a bit of persuasion, the girls opened up about this and the majority feel that their cultural background plays a large role in this problem. Most young girls are brought up to believe that a woman's place is in the kitchen. SAAS is helping to combat this stereotype and encourage the girls we sponsor to reach for their dreams.

We also discussed the girls academic progress and how the boys are consistency achieving higher marks. The girls agreed that they should be able to

score similar marks to the boys and will try harder to match and even beat the boys results.



The SAAS girls after their seminar.

AWARDS DAY

We recently held our Annual Awards Day to acknowledge the hard work of all our students. This year's winners are Tatan Lolino (Form 1) of Dr Aggrey Secondary School, Peter Paul (Form 2) of Lukore Secondary School, Kennedy Owino (Form 3) of Mombasa Secondary School for the Physical Handicapped and Benedictor Lukanje (2nd year) of Kenyatta University.

We would like to congratulate all of our students for the hard work they have shown – especially Kennedy Owino as this is his second win in a row. Keep up the good work everybody!!!



Ben receiving his trophy for Best Disciplined Student.

GRADUATION CEREMONY

SAAS was delighted to attend the graduation ceremony of Francis Odhiambo. Francis, who is now a Kenyan citizen, has successfully completed a Diploma in Clearing & Forwarding at Mombasa Aviation Training Institute. Both the Institute and SAAS wish Francis all the best in his future career and hope he finds his perfect job soon.

EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

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TRIZA'S CORNER



Triza is a full time student at Mombasa Polytechnic University College and she continues to pursue her passion for Journalism. Below is her latest poem:

I AM HAPPY

I am happy, so happy that I can't explain it yes! He made me happy, He wiped my tears, My tears are dry now; I am not crying anymore Coz my life is not the same again.

I used to cry, day and night In that house, that house of the so called boss Working day and night just for money, money to help My family. But now, am free and happy, happy that I am in school.

Am in school, something that I've been dreaming of, something that was a song in my mind and heart but I couldn't know how I would get there! But Am there! Yes! Am there learning by the help of my guardian angel.

Know I can laugh, I can smile, coz I know my dream will come true, and I will be the person I want to be in future. I am so happy now with my life, Thank you for bringing my happiness. Thank you that I'll change the living of my family

SAAS you have made all this, You've changed my life Am no longer the low class girl they used to see Am no longer the house girl they used to call me, But am an educated girl, a girl with her own Dignity, Thank you for changing these names Thank you for the happiness you gave me in my life.

COMING SOON:

- April 2011 students holiday
- Sponsors visiting from Ireland during Easter

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