



SAAS

SPONSOR AN AFRICAN SCHOLAR

ISSUE NO: 43

DATE: JANUARY— APRIL 2024

SAAS holds Career Talk for students



James Kirima engages students during the Career Talk Day

We held the inaugural **SAAS CAREER TALK** on April 20, 2024, during which over 100 students were guided through identifying their career paths and the subjects that will help them achieve their ambitions.

The purpose of conducting the career talk was to help our students set their career ambitions and understand what they need to do in terms of subject combination in school and what grade they need to get to pursue the courses in line with their career aspirations.

The talk aimed to help the students answer six fundamental life questions:

1. **Who am I?** – My identity, self-awareness, or personality.
2. **Where am I from?** – My origin.
3. **Why am I here?** – My purpose.
4. **What can I do?** – My potential, passion, talents, skills, interests, ambitions.
5. **Where am I going?** – My destiny.

The panel of speakers varied from former SAAS students working in various careers to high school teachers and a lecturer from one of Kenya's renowned private universities.

We look forward to a bigger and better career talk event next year.

Back to school as term two kicks off



Students wait to board a bus to school

The academic calendar for schools in Kenya began on January 8, 2024, and children were expected to be in school for 13 weeks.

The calendar released by the Ministry of Education in Kenya stated that schools would proceed for three days for a half term from February 29 to March 3.

Students then went on a three-week holiday from April 8 to April 26.

Schools were to be opened for term two, which was to begin from April 29 to August 2, a period of 14 weeks.

Students are to proceed for half term from June 20 to June 23.

However, heavy rains across the country in the better part of April led to road flooding and the submersion of some schools.

Opening dates were pushed forward by two weeks. Term two begun on May 13.

April School holiday program runs successfully

The SAAS April Holiday School Revision Program for term one concluded successfully, with students showing up in large numbers with the urge to quench their thirst for education.

Despite the rains in Mombasa during that period, about 100 students from different schools and classes attended the four-day program from April 16 to 19, 2024.

The students were taught various challenging mathematics, chemistry, physics, and biology topics.

The classes wouldn't have been possible without the help of our dedicated tutors, who took the time to guide them through challenging topics in various subjects.

The office extends its gratitude to the tutors, namely;

1. Jilton Faraja



A student attempts to solve an equation during the revision program

2. Harith Suleiman
3. David Wafula
4. Ludence Chiti

We also thank the board for approving the purchase of writing and teaching materials for the students and tutors.

We look forward to a successful holiday revision program for the second term break in August.

Prayers and funfair as Christians celebrate Easter



Christians mark Palm Sunday at St. Martins de Pores Catholic Church in Mombasa.

SAAS joined the rest of the world's Christians in celebrating Easter, which began with Good Friday, the day that our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified and died for the sins of the world.

The celebrations culminated with marking Easter Monday on April 1, a day that marks the resurrection of Jesus Christ and offers hope and renewal for Christians worldwide.

Kenyans thronged churches with family and friends, offering thanksgiving for Jesus's sacrifice to save the world from the bondage of sin.

Easter, one of the most significant festivals for Christians, is a time of profound spiritual renewal and joy.

April Computer Graduation



Computer graduates pose for a photo with their certificates

We held a successful graduation ceremony for our computer program students for the January to April 2024 intake.

A total of 40 students received their certificates after satisfactorily completing the three-month-long course offered by our dedicated volunteer tutors.

We are grateful to our tutors, Morris Muteti and

Mohammed Salim, for their tremendous work over the period.

SAAS remains steadfast in impacting computer skills knowledge to society as we strive to bridge the digital skills gap within the community.

Congratulations to the graduates.

Kenya hosts MV World Odyssey

The port of Mombasa played host to the World Odyssey vessel in February, which made its third visit to Kenya since 2022.

The vessel, popularly known as "Semester at Sea", is the world's biggest floating campus, which operates academic voyages for students.



World MV Odyssey arriving in Mombasa

She was in Mombasa for six days, from February 9 to February 14. The ship had 763 passengers, 585 of whom were students from 20 different nations, and 400 crew members.

The students visited institutions of higher learning, including the Technical University of Mombasa and the Kenyatta University Mombasa campus, for educational tours.

They also conducted excursions to enjoy the flora and fauna of Mombasa and the coast. Some visited various wildlife parks during their stay, and many went on safaris in Tsavo and Shimba Hills national parks.

St. Patrick's Day marked with pomp and Colour



This year's St Patrick's Day marked Ireland's future in the world.

The country celebrated the achievements of its younger population in creativity, innovation, business, academia, volunteerism, peace building, and public service at home, abroad, and in her affinity diaspora.

Saint Patrick's Day, or the feast of Saint Patrick, is a religious and cultural holiday held on March 17, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick, the foremost patron saint of Ireland.

The significance of the feast is that it commemorates the arrival of Christianity in Ireland.

We hope you all enjoyed the day with pomp and colour.

New Form 1 selection 2024

Form one students for the academic year 2024 began reporting to school on January 15, one week after schools in Kenya opened on January 8.

We are glad to inform you that SAAS has sponsored 22 new students to join high school this year. Of the 22, eleven are male and eleven are female. We have 17 students in boarding schools, while five are in day schools.

The students reported settling in their new schools, thanks to SAAS's benevolent gesture.



Idd Thoya reports to Form 1 at Dr. Kraph Memorial High School in Kilifi County



Lidya Mgulo reports to Form 1 at Matuga Girls High School in Kwale County

SAAS officials visit needy families

The SAAS staff in Mombasa conducted the home visits on January 13, 2024. The purpose of the visit was to determine how viable the applicants are to the sponsorship opportunity.

The process started by calling the parents or guardians, who gave the team directions on how to reach them. The team then visited the families, who were very welcoming and supportive.

After an interactive session with the applicants and their families, we realized that most families need the opportunity since most guardians and parents are not financially able to provide for the applicants' educational needs.

The majority of them need to be employed. Instead, they rely on manual jobs and small-scale retailing to meet ends. Some applicants have older or younger siblings who dropped out of school due to a lack of fees.

The SAAS team's visit to these homes brought hope and good fortune, as most applicants had already given up hope of ever making it to secondary school to begin pursuing their dreams.

As a team, we pray and wish that the organization will be able to empower and touch the lives of more bright, needy, and desperate students. All the applicants are deserving, but our slots are limited.



Madam Sylvia engages one of the applicant's families in a conversation during the home visit

A family of an applicant narrates to SAAS staff the predicaments they face daily. They live in a single room without even seats to sit on.

