

# SPONSOR AN AFRICAN SCHOLAR

DIGITAL NEWSLETTER



Students engage in a football match during the Annual SAAS Fun Day held at the Shores of Nyali Beach in November 2024

## SAAS Fun Day 2024 Rocks

The annual SAAS Fun Day took place on November 29, 2024, at the shores of Nyali Beach in Mombasa. One hundred fifty-eight students, 73 girls and 85 boys, participated in the event.

The fun-packed event brings SAAS students together to mingle and unwind after a long and hectic academic year. They get to know each other and share experiences from their different schools.

To manage the numbers, we had our old boys and girls help us coordinate the group and activities. Thanks to Jilton, Kevin, Dan, Davis, Morris, and Rita, we successfully coordinated the event.

Some of the fun activities that took place included

- Football competition
- Music and dancing
- Potato racing
- Paper game

The students were divided into four teams;

1. Team White - The Legends
2. Team Yellow - Triple M
3. Team Red - The Sharks
4. Team Blue - Barcelona

The teams competed in various activities, and the winners accumulated points for their teams.

Team Red, alias The Sharks, won the second edition of the Annual SAAS Fun Day team competition, scoring 75 points in five activities.

The students also enjoyed some delicious chicken biryani for lunch, accompanied by a bottle of water and soda.

We appreciate the board of directors for making this event a success. We look forward to a bigger and better event next year.

### Warm Christmas and New year Wishes from SAAS



SAAS staff in Mombasa, from left: Sylvia, Fred and Maria.

As we approach the holiday season, we at SAAS want to thank you for your support. It has been the best gift this year.

We express our deepest gratitude for your continued support. Your continued support means the world to us, and we look forward to working together in the New Year.

May your home this season be filled with joy, your heart with love, and your days with laughter.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at SAAS.



*Our guest speaker madam Lillian engages the girls during the SAAS Boys and Girls Talk event that took place at the office compound in November*

## SAAS Boys & Girls Talk

The SAAS Boys and Girls Talk event ran successfully. One hundred twenty-eight students, 68 girls and 60 boys, attended the function.

The event took place at the office. We had guest speakers who guided the young boys and girls through the topics we had prepared for the event.

The discussions centred around the following topics:

1. Personal hygiene
2. Demerits of drugs and substance abuse
3. Sexuality
4. Relationships – between peers, parents, religion, school
5. Importance of self-discipline
6. Dealing with peer pressure and social media influence
7. Importance of engaging in sports and nurturing their hobbies

Our girls also received dignity packs, which will sustain them from the November-to-December holiday period until the end of term one next year.

We appreciate the board's approval and facilitation of the event. We look forward to more and better engagements with our kids as we help them navigate life.

### Over 960,000 students sit for KCSE exams in Kenya

Over 960,000 students in Kenya sat for the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) national exams. The exams began in mid-October and ended on November 22.

SAAS had 35 students out of the over 960,000 candidates who sat the tests across Kenya. The results are expected to be out in January, and the students will be proceeding to college or university in September 2025.

We wish our students success as they await their results.



*Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Education Mr. Julius Ogamba administers a paper to a candidate during the 2024 KCSE national exams*

## Our Star student: Gorrety

She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree



*Gorrety poses for a photo with her mother during her graduation*

We celebrate our student Gorrety Apoda who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Geography during the 56th graduation ceremony at Kenyatta University in Nairobi. She was among the 5,615 graduates conferred with Degree and Diploma certificates during the event held at the university's graduation square on December 13.

We sincerely congratulate Gorrety for this academic achievement and wish her well.

### New CRM System

To better manage our data and flow of information, the office has commissioned a new CRM system.

The system, which is in the development stage, is expected to be in use next year and will revolutionize how we store and manage our data. We applaud the board of directors for this effort to improve service delivery. The commissioning of the CRM system complements the infrastructure upgrade undertaken last year to give the office a new outlook.

We look forward to better service delivery as we transition to the new system.



The SAAS best students in 2024 pose for a group photo with their awards during the Annual SAAS Fun Day event held at Nyali Beach on November 29, 2024

## SAAS awards best students in 2024

We awarded the top students in each class for the 2024 academic year.

The awards were for the best student in Form 1, Form 2 and Form 3. We also awarded the SAAS Personality of the Year.

The top student in each class received a trophy and a gift voucher worth Ksh2,000. We also awarded the second through fifth students in each class.

The second student received a Ksh1,500 shopping voucher, the third student received a Ksh1,000 shopping voucher, and the fourth and fifth students received SAAS-branded T-shirts.

The SAAS Personality of the Year awardee received a trophy and a Ksh2,000 shopping voucher.

These awards aim to motivate the students by letting them know that the office appreciates their exemplary school performance.

They also aim to encourage the rest of the students to work hard next year so that they can also be recognized and awarded.

### Form 1

1. Best student - Samuel Mutinda
2. Second best student - Klaus Dullu Maewah
3. Third best student - Faith Muthoni
4. Fourth best student - Ali Everline Umazi
5. Fifth best student - Purity Riziki Dadi



### Form 2

1. Best student - Felix Odhiambo
2. Second best student - Pamrudence Wanjala
3. Third best student - Wekesa Nasimiyu Elizabeth
4. Fourth best student - Austine Furaha
5. Fifth best student - Robinson Wasike



### Form 3

1. Best student - Muraya Maina Omar
2. Second best student - Lewis Kichungu
3. Third best student - Angeline Mutethia
4. Fourth best student - Lawrence Duncan
5. Fifth best student - Alvin Sewe





SAAS sponsors and donors pose for a photo outside the parish priest's house with Fr. Eric, a former SAAS student when they visited him at his St. Martin's Catholic Church in Mombasa

## SAAS Donors and Sponsors Visit Mombasa

On October 11, 2024, we hosted a delegation of sponsors and donors who paid us a courtesy call at our offices in Mombasa.

The team, which was on holiday in Kenya, held an interactive session with the SAAS executives in Mombasa and some of the sponsored students.

The interactions brought them up to speed with what had happened at the office since their last visit in October 2023.

Thereafter, the team visited the Kenya Coast National Polytechnic (formerly Mombasa Technical Training Institute - MTTI) to familiarize themselves with TVET education in Kenya, discussing the institution with the dean of students and the chief deputy principal.

The team also stopped at St. Martin's Catholic Church in Mtopanga, where Fr. Eric Mallah, a former SAAS student, is currently serving as the assistant parish priest.

*Thank you for being such an important Part of our success. Wishing you Joy, peace and a wonderful Christmas*

Asante sana to our visitors for coming, and we hope to host you again soon.

Karibuni sana!



SAAS visitors pose for a photo with staff from the Kenya Coast National Polytechnic after having a tour of the TVET institution



SAAS sponsors and donors pose for a photo with their gifts during their visit to the office in Mombasa, Kenya earlier in October



Fr. Eric gives our visitors a tour of his church when they visited his parish in Mombasa.



The girls compete in a potato race during the SAAS Fun Day event



Students compete in the fill the bottle challenge during their fun day

The girls pose for a photo after receiving their sanitary packs during the Boys and Girls Talk event at the SAAS office in Mombasa, Kenya.



## News Events: 2025

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### David and Ebby set to visit Kilquade and Greystones Parish in February 2025

SAAS directors Mr David and Mrs Ebby will meet with church representatives from Kilquade and Greystones Parish in 2025.

The meeting slated for February is very significant as it will further cement the collaborative workmanship between parishioners and SAAS, which has made it possible for destitute children in Kenya to attend school.

Kilquade and Greystones Parish continue to be critical strategic partners for SAAS in its quest to provide academic empowerment to impoverished children drawn from Kongowea slums and its environs in Mombasa, Kenya.

Over the years, the benevolent acts of the parishioners have enabled over 100 children to attend school. Their unwavering support has helped us pay school fees for these children who were in despair.

We are grateful for the partnership and look forward to supporting more children in 2025.

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### Grade 9 students to report in January 2025



Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Education Mr. Julius Ogamba addresses students at Kongowea Secondary School when he visited the School in November

Kenyan schools will reopen in the second week of January 2025 as the students proceed to their next respective classes. Learners under Kenya's new Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) will progress to Grade 9, signaling the end of Form 1 students under the old 8-4-4 education curriculum.

In 2023, some 1.4 million primary school students sat for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exams. This was the last KCPE exam for primary school students in Kenya after 32 years since its inception, as Kenya now fully embraces the new CBC curriculum in schools. There were no KCPE candidates in 2024, meaning we will not have new Form 1 students in 2025.

The Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) under the 2-6-3-3 education system in Kenya was unveiled in 2017 to replace the 8-4-4 education system, which has served Kenya for 32 years.

Learners will not sit exams, but they will be evaluated on the skills acquired through Continuous Assessment Tests (CATs) instead of cramming for exams, as has been the case.

The 2-6-3-3-3 model emphasizes formative years of learning, with learners spending a total of eight years—two in pre-primary (kindergarten) and six in primary.

Junior Secondary (grades 7, 8, and 9) and Senior Secondary Education (grades 10, 11, and 12) will each take three years.

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