



WATERFORD KAMHLABA UWCSA
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13th October 2005

Letter 26/2005

Dear Parents

Weekend Announcements

The major activities this weekend are:

- * The Golden Lion Film Festival opening at 2pm on Saturday at the Theatre Club, where entries suitable for family viewing will be screened. All are invited (entry fee E20).
- * The Social on Saturday evening, only open to WK students.
- * The IB Visual Art exhibition, open to the public from 6pm to 10pm on Sunday.

UWC International Council Meeting in Singapore

The Waterford team arrived back on Tuesday, both enriched and exhausted. Possibly the most important work of the International Council meeting was to agree to a new mission statement and to chart development over the next five years. The new mission statement reads:

UWC makes education a force to unite people, nations and cultures for peace and a sustainable future.

UWCs provide a visible sign that people from different backgrounds can live, work and serve together. This is critical in a world that is increasingly fractured and retreating into camps.

It is clear that UWCs provide education to only a minute fraction of the world's children. Having said this, it is also clear that UWCs have played (and continue to play) an important role in shaping significant changes to how the world thinks about education. Most critical is UWC's link with the International Baccalaureate Organization. There would be no IBO today without UWC's historic support for the IBO. Over the decades the model provided by UWC and IBO have significantly influenced national thinking about education in many regions of the world. To the best of my knowledge, UWC also pioneered the formalization of community service as part of the curriculum. These days UWCs provide a testing ground for new ideas, new subjects, new approaches.

What did we commit ourselves to in Singapore? Critically, UWC has committed itself to the building of a UWC in the Middle East in the next 5 years as well as to seeking further Colleges and UWC initiatives (not all necessarily following the IB Diploma route) in those areas where UWC is under-represented. Remarkably, UWC Graduates present at the meeting formally pledged their personal financial support at a level adequate to build the UWC of the Middle East and to have this college funded to the extent that almost all (if not all) of the students will attend on full scholarship. The pledged funds also are sufficient to build a UWC in East Africa and a UWC in mainland China.

Today all WK students received copies of *United World*. This edition focuses on the International Council Meeting.

Further announcements and reminders

The Golden Lion Film Festival will be showing student-made films at WK on Monday (17th) and Tuesday (18th), from 4.15pm to 6.15pm. Entrance is free and all are invited. Unfortunately WK cannot lay on early evening transportation for day students.

Parents are reminded of the invitation to meet with their children's teachers from 1pm to 3pm on Thursday (20th).

Midterm break starts at 12.40pm on Thursday. Boarders may return after lunch on Sunday (23rd) and lessons resume at 8am on Monday (24th).

Community Service Fete

This is a further reminder that the Fete is scheduled for Saturday 29th October and that all donations (clothes, books, other household items, produce, prizes, cash!) will be gratefully received. Donations may be brought any day to the Community Service Centre.

Yours sincerely

Laurence Nodder
Principal