

# WATERFORD KAMHLABA UWC SA

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17<sup>th</sup> February, 2006

Letter 3/2006

Dear Parents

## UWC Day

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February is a day of special celebration as we share our different backgrounds, especially our different national backgrounds. The programme begins with a UWC assembly starting at 9am. A soccer match between 'Swaziland' and the 'Rest of the World' commences at 10.30am and the different national and regional stalls are due to open at midday. Students and visitors have the opportunity of purchasing food from different parts of the world (with prices set to offset the purchase of ingredients).

All students are expected to be present. School transport will depart from the usual town points – day students wishing to catch school transport must be at these points by 8am – and a bus service will depart WK at 3pm.

Parents and friends are invited to attend, especially for the national and regional stalls. We might be able to fit a few visitors in the Assembly Hall, but if you come for the assembly please be prepared for a tight fit.

Last term a tentative date was set for Mananga College to bring a number of teams to WK this Saturday. Unfortunately there was a misunderstanding, with Mananga planning on the basis that this was a fixed date and with our understanding that this fixture had been postponed. So as not to let down Mananga and in order to share our UWC ideals with a wider group of people, I have agreed for their visit to proceed, with various matches being scheduled between 10.30am at 3pm.

## Social

This term's Social is scheduled for Saturday evening. Parents of day students should have received a separate letter in this regard.

## Debating Society

The WK Debating Society has scheduled a workshop at 2pm Sunday (19<sup>th</sup>) with the objective of giving students training in debating techniques. This is to be followed by a debate at 7pm in the Michael Stern Assembly Hall. The motion to be debated is whether or not homosexuals should have equal rights. Some might view the motion at least thirty years old; the reality is that in many African countries homosexuals do not enjoy equal rights and in some countries are persecuted.

### Parent Staff Association

We enjoy a most active Parent Staff Association. It meets with the Director of Residences and me on a monthly basis. It is a forum through which parent suggestions and concerns can be raised. It organizes a variety of special events (most with the objective of bringing parents together and of fundraising) and embarks on a variety of projects. A current PSA project is the building of a 'lapa' (a large thatched structure) in the swimming pool area.

The PSA AGM is scheduled for 5.30pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, in the Michael Stern Assembly Hall. This precedes the Forms 1 and 2 parents' evening where parents have the opportunity of one-on-one meetings with all their children's teachers.

The PSA is organizing an International Dinner on the evening of Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April. Please enter this in your diaries.

The PSA has booked the Royal Swazi Golf Course for a Golf Day on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October.

If you wish to raise matters with the PSA you may contact the Chairperson, Gerde Evans, at [global@africaonline.co.sz](mailto:global@africaonline.co.sz), or the Secretary, Evelyn Balde, at [balde@swazi.net](mailto:balde@swazi.net)

### Link Parents

Many of our students who come from beyond Swaziland deeply value being invited to visit the homes of friends of Waterford Kamhlaba. Many of these friends are families who have day students at WK, but this is not a necessity. WK coordinates this programme, and the hosts are described as 'Link Parents'. Link Parents and their families also gain through having an opportunity to get to know people from different parts of the world with their different cultures and backgrounds.

In some instances students are seeking contact with host families from a similar religious or national background. So if you are an expatriate family, or a family from a particular religious background, this might also create an opportunity.

If you are willing to open your home as a Link Parent (or know of others who might be willing assist in this way) please contact Ann Huysmans (Head of Emhlabeni – the IB Residence)(ph 4220082) or Tony Mallia (Director of Residences)(ph6021565).

### Form 1 Community Service

Yesterday the Form 1 students visited the Lighthouse at Hawane, a farm where orphaned and vulnerable children are cared for and where a pre-school runs. Much of the morning was spent with the pre-school children, engaging them in activities and teaching them songs. Our students were also scheduled to do some work on the farm, but heavy rain precluded this.

### Midterm Break

Lessons close at 12.40am on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March and resume at 8am on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March. Catering for boarders will close after lunch on Thursday and resume with supper on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

Yours sincerely  
Laurence Nodder  
Principal