



# WATERFORD KAMHLABA

## United World College of Southern Africa

21<sup>st</sup> September 2007

Letter 24/2007

Dear Parents

### Janine Nathaniel

It is with great sadness that we heard the news that Janine Nathaniel, an IB2 student from Namibia, died in a car crash during the school holidays. Her parents, sister and aunt plan to come to Waterford next week and a Memorial Service is being planned for 3pm on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September at school. Many within the Waterford community received this sad news during the holidays and were able to offer support to the Nathaniel family, support that was deeply appreciated.

### Mr Bruce Wells

I am sure you will want to join me in wishing Mr Wells a speedy recovery following surgery. He broke his arm badly in a fall at his parents' home during the holidays.

### International Peace Day

Today (Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September) is International Peace Day. Waterford Kamhlaba formally celebrates peace day at a different time, but teachers were encouraged to focus on 'peace' wherever appropriate in their lessons.

### Environment Art Competition

The American Cultural Centre ran a competition that involved students creating images that showed their concerns for the environment. On Wednesday afternoon Danielle King, Sasha De Sousa and Katie Millin were declared the overall winners and Jade Liebrandt and Oluwapelumi the runners-up at a function at the Centre. We congratulate them!

### WK Environmental Competition

With support from Shell, Waterford has announced an internal essay competition entitled 'The Energy Challenge: an African perspective'. The overall (age-related) winner will win a laptop computer, and there are generous prizes for the best essay written by an under 16 student and a senior student. The closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> September.

### UWC Africa Regional Conference

Representatives from 14 African UWC National Committees, four UWC Colleges and the UWC International Office gather from the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> September in Nairobi, to discuss how we can strengthen the work and further spread the ideals of the United World Colleges in Africa and to visit the site of the proposed Kenyan UWC College. I will be representing Waterford at this meeting.

### Visits from International Admissions Officers from the USA

The Waterford community continues to be fortunate in receiving visits from representatives from several leading universities and colleges in the USA. Through these visits our students have the opportunity to find out about the different types of universities and colleges, the different approaches to higher education and the specific institutions. Senior students interested in admission to the

specific institution are afforded one-on-one interviews. On Tuesday we hosted St Lawrence University. Other confirmed visits are: Earlham College (27<sup>th</sup> September), Skidmore College (2<sup>nd</sup> October) Harvard (23<sup>rd</sup> October), University of Pennsylvania (23<sup>rd</sup> October), Brown University (24<sup>th</sup> October), Colorado College (25<sup>th</sup> October), Swarthmore College (7<sup>th</sup> November) and Columbia University (14<sup>th</sup> November). In almost every instance, the International Admissions Officer spends the night at Waterford and this allows him or her to give a presentation at 6.45pm in the Emhlabeni Residence Library to which interested students and parents are invited. Please diarize these dates should you be interested in attending any of the presentations and then confirm with Waterford a day or two before the scheduled presentation.

### Volunteers

Each term we welcome volunteers from different parts of the world, young people who come with much enthusiasm and energy and some specific skills and experience. This term we welcome Winston Smith and Alex de Carvalho. Winston has just graduated from Princeton whilst Alex has one year remaining at Harvard. One of the many ways in which they are willing to help is with assisting students in their university applications (this in addition to the excellent work of Mr John Storer). We welcome them.

### Term Calendar

Students should have received a copy of the Term calendar at today's Tutor Period. A copy of the calendar is available on the Waterford website ([www.waterford.sz](http://www.waterford.sz)).

### PSA Golf Day

The annual PSA Golf Day has been set for Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October at the Royal Swazi Country Club. Apart from golfers enjoying a day of golf, the object of the Day is to raise general awareness about Waterford Kamhlaba and to raise funds for PSA projects. Parents are encouraged to participate, either through playing or through sponsorship. This includes parents living relatively close to Swaziland! Please contact me for further details should you wish to participate.

### Students' Representative Council

Towards the end of last term, Makhosonkhe Nsibandze and Dalumuzi Mhlanga (both IB1) were elected as President and Secretary/Treasurer respectively of the incoming SRC. During the course of next week elections are to be held for year-group representatives holding other specific responsibilities throughout the school. Makhosonkhe and Dalumuzi have a bold vision as to how students can play a strengthened role within the school. At assembly on Wednesday they talked of how we all need to show passion in our contribution to our lives at school and beyond.

In doing so, they were echoing the sentiments of our role-model and UWC Honorary International President, Nelson Mandela, who said: "There is no passion to be found in playing small – in settling for a life that is less than the one you are capable of living." May this be a challenge to each one of us as we examine our roles, particularly our contribution to making this a better world, especially with today's focus on International Peace Day.

Yours sincerely

Laurence Nodder  
Principal