



WATERFORD KAMHLABA

United World College of Southern Africa

21st May 2010

Dear Parents and Guardians

Letter 14/2010

This term has started as last term closed: full of opportunities of learning, activity and engagement.

After the opening assembly last Tuesday I left to meet various alumni, supporters and potential donors in the USA and UK. WK has historical connections to the UK, and much of our current bursary funding is found through the magnificent voluntary work including of very senior professionals who make up the Waterford School Trust in that country. But there is also an increasing body of people based in the USA whose lives have been influenced by their association with WK, and a number of these are stepping forward to suggest that they may be willing to be more involved in promoting WK in the USA.

Davis United World College Scholars Program

One of the most significant developments in the last decade within WK and the wider UWC has been the philanthropy of Shelby and Gale Davis that has made it possible for so many of our graduates to attend some of the finest colleges and universities in the USA. Shelby and Gale Davis' support has made it possible for a remarkable 62 of our graduates from November 2009 to be offered scholarships to continue their studies in the USA, starting this August. This adds to the already nearly 3,000 students scholars who have been supported by the Davis'. Shelby Davis has articulated that his strategy for advancing international understanding through education is based on some assumptions, including: (1) promising future leaders from all cultures should be given greater opportunities at American colleges and universities; (2) American colleges and universities selected to partner with the Davis' in the program would become better learning environments for all involved if their student bodies became more reflective of the "real world" around them. That second assumption puts in fresh words a fundamental premise behind WK and UWC: all of our children gain educationally from the diversity of backgrounds and views within our community.

College and University Visits

So far this term we have welcomed international admission staff from Dartmouth, Amherst and Wartburg. Parents and guardians are invited to join students for presentations from Colorado College (Monday 24th May) and Colby College (Monday 31st May), at 6.30pm in the TV Room in Emhlabeni Residence. Typically our visitors spend a day or two interviewing students interested in applying to their institutions. Especially for relatively local parents and guardians of IB students, it is important to gain knowledge of the range of colleges and universities to which our children might be applying, so that we can comprehend and assist in their narrowing down of their institutions of choice.

Bushfire Festival

Swaziland's Bushfire Festival (28th to 30th May) is an annual explosion of entertainment hosted at the internationally acclaimed [House on Fire](#) -one of the most eclectic performance venues in the world! Offering 3 stages of World-class entertainment for 3 full days, Bushfire fuses live music, DJs, theatre, poetry, dance, film, interactive workshops, fair trade market, a global food fair and much more. The major beneficiary of funds raised through Bushfire is the Young Heroes NGO that provides grants to 1,200 orphans and which WK strongly supports. WK will provide school transport to the Festival, each evening returning in time for check-in.

Sporting Activities

This Saturday (22nd), 8 WK Volleyball teams travel to a tournament at Mananga College. This includes both junior and senior, boys and girls teams.

On Thursday 25th March some 80 senior students depart for a weekend of sport at the International School of South Africa. Teams include boys' and girls' teams in volleyball, soccer, hockey and basketball, as well as girls' netball.

Yours sincerely

Laurence Nodder
Principal

