



# A Review of Activities at The Banda January Term 2010

## Headmaster's Report

Dear Parents,

The  
Banda  
School

At the heart of a flourishing and happy school are three core ingredients: the size of the school in which all pupils are individually known; an environment that will attract and retain the services of good teachers, giving them both reward and respect; and finally, opportunities for the pupils that stretch way beyond the academic curriculum to include an exciting variety of music, art, drama, educational outings and team sports. Having said this, the Staff, children and I am sure you, as parents firmly believe that academic success is extremely important but an appreciation of the "bigger picture" and an acceptance of The Banda's other responsibility – preparing the children for life, is essential.

There is a wonderful feel about The Banda and believe me, many visitors have commented on this voluntarily. There is a buzz about the place. The children have a positive and "can do" attitude in everything they do. There is a healthy understanding of a duty to others, there is also a belief in success, as a worthy personal objective, but not success "at any cost" and certainly not success "over the bodies" of their fellow pupils. The children themselves are on many occasions the main drivers here although great credit must also be given to the dedication, leadership and support of the whole staff (academic, administration and auxiliary) who work tirelessly to produce the right outcomes for your children. We all know that an ethos like this cannot be built overnight and should never be taken for granted; so I would like to thank the whole Banda community including you as loyal and supportive parents, for all that is done to ensure we keep it alive.

The Staff would like to congratulate the pupils below on their scholarship success to the following schools:

Arthur Norman	Academic Scholarship	Bradfield College, UK
Siobhan Shaw	All-Rounder Award	Fettes Collge, UK
Calum Macfie	Kenya Scholarship	Gordonstoun, UK
Christopher Barnett	Kenya Scholarship	King's Bruton, UK
Anya Mangat	Academic Exhibition Scholarship	Peponi School
Siana Douglas-Hamilton	Top Art Scholarship	Peponi School
Emily Willis	Joint Drama & Sports Scholarship	Westonbirt, UK
Emily Willis	All-Rounder Scholarship	Pangbourne College, UK

The following pages will keep you busy reading and I hope, confirm that your children have done The Banda and yourselves proud.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone involved with The Banda a wonderful Easter break.

**M. D. Dickson**  
Headmaster

## **JUNIOR DEPARTMENT TERMLY REPORT**

This term one of the corridor boards in the Junior School was labelled "Praise Board" and it featured photographs of some of the children who had, in one area or another, done something which deserved praise. I was in charge of changing the photos, and I could hardly keep up with the number of children who were nominated for the board by their teachers! There are so many activities on the go in the Junior School and the pupils are so keen and enthusiastic at whatever they undertake, that I am sure that I could probably have filled up several such boards each week, if space permitted and my printer had everlasting ink cartridges! I am proud of your children's attitude, talent and efforts.

Academics comes first and foremost in the school, and I am happy to say that the February assessments showed once again the vast majority of pupils are firmly "on track" and making good progress academically. Recently, boys and girls have started to earn certificates for times tables, and I have so enjoyed handing out a certificate, a sticker and a sweet to any pupil who was sent to 'Showcase' for an exceptional piece of work. Sporting activities are important to us too, and children have played hockey and swum enthusiastically throughout the term, enjoying many successes at hockey matches, 'boats' and swimming galas. They had wonderful fun rollerblading, skating and scootering for the first 6 weeks of term, and most of the children who took part in these activities showed impressive leaps in their skills. The inter-house General Knowledge competition was keenly entered by many, and was won by Swara. Well done to all the pupils who used their investigative skills to find out the answers and earned points for their House. The Junior Choir sang at the Braeburn Music Festival and our Junior School Plays were performed in the last week of term, and all who saw these productions agreed that praise was due to all the performers for their talented acting and singing. Each year group went on a school trip; and we all suddenly became more aware of our 'Carbon Footprint' when an initiative by our Banditos made us think about how eco-friendly our journey to school is. Huge praise goes to those children and parents who started to walk or cycle to school, or share a car pool as a result. The last day of term saw Twiga celebrating their Cockhouse Party. They had scored the most points over two terms for stars, effort grades, house matches, sports day, the gala, general knowledge and any other competition or activity that took place during the last two terms. Well done to all the boys and girls in Twiga for trying so hard in every way!

So praise was earned again and again. There is not a child in the entire Junior School who did not deserve a congratulatory pat on the back at some stage this term. All credit to mums and dads of course, and to the energy and enthusiasm of the Junior teachers; but most of all to the boys and girls themselves. They did us all proud.

On behalf of the Junior School staff, may I wish you all a relaxing holiday and a happy Easter.

**A.A.**

## **PEGASUS PRE-PREP DEPARTMENT TERMLY REPORT**

Despite being the shortest term, it has been a very busy one, filled with an endless number of fun and exciting events and activities.

The highlight of the first half of term was our Kenya-themed Open Morning. As the children arrived at school there was a mass of vibrant colour; everyone looked fantastic! We had lions, leopards, zebra, Masai girls and boys, kanga and kikoy outfits and even a fabulous dress made from the Kenyan flag. The morning started with a traditional African story, then the children took part in a number of different activities. Mr Ngare played his guitar and taught each class some familiar songs, but in Kiswahili, as well as the National Anthem. Each year group did their own Kenyan activities and the morning concluded with a picnic in our garden, we were even treated to some traditional Swahili food. It was wonderful to see such a happy, buzzing scene. The morning was full of fun and together, the children, staff and parents created a wonderful atmosphere.

We had several year group trips relating to class projects all to help reinforce the children's learning and bring the topics to life. Reception Pingu and Baloo went to visit the Bomas of Kenya, Nursery Kipper went to Sheldrick's Elephant Orphanage and Year One went to Giraffe Manor. It was great to hear remarks about how well-behaved our children were when representing The Banda. We are lucky to have such wonderful opportunities on our doorstep that create such unique and informative learning experiences for the children.

As always, we also celebrated some theme days. On Shrove Tuesday, Joseph, one of the cooks brought down all the ingredients for pancakes and our Pegasus volunteers helped to break eggs (some onto the floor!), sieve flour, pour in milk and water and to stir the mixture together. Once we had made our sticky mess, the teachers tried to flip the pancakes one by one. It was a fun morning and the children enjoyed learning about the significance of Shrove Tuesday. They particularly enjoyed eating their pancakes for pudding!

We had two scooter days during which Pegasus was full of scooters and roller blades as well as lots of excited children. Each year group had fun as they rolled their way around the courts. It was wonderful to see so many kind children who shared their scooters or helped their friends learn how to roller blade for the first time.

The Year Ones took part in a General Knowledge morning. Each group thoroughly enjoyed the morning and learned the values of working as a team, listening to each other and not to shout out the answer for the other teams to hear!

This term we had more Class Assemblies. These low-key events give the children the opportunity to perform in front of a friendly audience of their parents and the rest of Pegasus. The Reception classes showed us how to count in Kiswahili and acted out the story of the Three Little Pigs. One Elmer taught us all about Light and Dark, in conjunction with their Science lessons this term. One Gruffalo told us what they had learnt about different houses and homes around the world. We really noticed the improvement in the children's confidence compared to their first performance on stage last term. A special mention must go to Lulu Karvonen, Victoria Minns and Abby Gauntlett who each played a piano solo.

Many of our children entered an Illustrated Creative Writing Competition. Three winners were selected from each year group to represent The Banda at the Brookhouse competition, which would then be judged against all the entries from many other schools. Well done to Amnan Sevany, Leah Andrade and Ruby Owen in Year One. Joss Gowar, Nina Allan and Kieran Low in Reception and to Kailan Monson, Georgie Cook and Filippo Croce in Nursery. They all received certificates in Assembly for their illustrated creative writing. There were so many fabulous entries and I know that the children enjoyed creating their very own masterpiece.

After the final judging, we heard that Ruby Owen was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> Place out of all the Year One entries, Nina Allan came 1<sup>st</sup> for the Reception age group and Filippo Croce was 1<sup>st</sup> place for all the Nursery age group entries. The results showed that Pegasus Pre-Prep was extremely well represented and our children must feel proud of themselves and their achievements. Congratulations to everyone who took part.

Towards the end of term we had our Swimming Gala. We certainly have some brave children in Pegasus! There were children jumping, diving, bouncing, swimming underwater, swimming with noodles, faces being nervously put in the water and many other demonstrations of exactly what the Reception and Year One children are capable of.

In Week Ten, the Year One children went to a Creative Arts Festival. They took part in dance, story, art, music and drama workshops. They sang in the Grande Finale with many other schools and performed their own sketch about the importance of recycling and looking after the environment.

We finished the term with an Easter Fun Day. All of the children took part in different Easter-themed activities and gathered together at the end of the morning to share a huge feast which was laid out in our Hall.

So that concludes the January Term 2010. Throughout the term I was so delighted to see the fantastic parental support we receive in the Pre-Prep for every open event and activity. It means so much to the children to have you supporting them and showing such interest in them during their early days at school. The children continue to flourish, and this is reflected in their end of term reports. Most importantly, however, they are a very happy and enthusiastic group of children who ooze confidence and who truly enjoy their days at Pegasus. Behind the success of this is a strong and dedicated teaching and assistant team that help to instil all qualities and I would like to extend my thanks to all of them for their hard work.

As we begin the well deserved holidays I would also like to thank you, the parents for all your continuing help and support.  
**P.B.**

### **DRAMA IN THE JUNIOR SCHOOL**

One of the highlights of the January Term comes along in the very last week of term when the Junior School pupils perform their year group plays. They have been doing Drama lessons in class, and many boys and girls do LAMDA too; but the plays are the real climax of this area of our curriculum.

This term Year Two pupils performed "Eddie the Penguin", a charming little story about a group of penguins who decide that the world needed saving and that they could do it! This theme reinforced the efforts of our Banditos to make us all more aware of what we personally can do to make a difference, and everyone agreed that our youngest children showed commendable confidence and talent in their performance. The Year Threes entertained us by putting on Roald Dahl's version of "Jack and the Beanstalk." His quirky sense of humour and unusual slant on the traditional tale made for a most amusing performance – I particularly loved the dance of the cow! The moral of the story was that we should bath regularly in order to avoid being 'smelled out' by a giant; and I am sure that we would all agree with that.

"The Peace Child" by Year Four was based around two warring tribes in a far away land, and gave us all some insight into how we should strive to resolve conflict. Once again, the children performed with enthusiasm and skill.

My thanks go to all the boys and girls for their talent and enthusiasm, and to all the teachers who put so much effort and time into preparing and coaching them.  
**A.A.**

### **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

This term's musical activity began in January, with the inter-schools choral performance of *Arabica* taking place at the end of week 4. Eleven schools participated in the concert and it provided a great opportunity for our students to sing alongside other choirs. In week 8, the Junior Choir participated in the Braeburn Music Festival, performing *The Number Song* and *We Are One*. In the same week, the Senior School Informal Concert took place, involving the Training Choir, Senior Choir and Orchestra, as well as a number of soloists. The afternoon was greatly enjoyed by everybody. In Week 10, we were treated to a drumming demonstration, involving our drummers and organised by our drum teacher Mr. Timothy Kaberia. Once again, it was a fantastic performance.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy holiday

**R.B.**

### **SENIOR AND JUNIOR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**

This House competition is run on a daily basis throughout the term in the Senior School and each day 3 questions are posted which the children answer on a voluntary basis. In the Junior School questions are put up every other day for the children to answer voluntarily. Every correct answer scores points towards the House competition with the overall highest individual point scorer taking the Davidson Cup.

### **Senior School**

Individually the Davidson Cup was a closely fought competition between Gordon Everard and Gemma Herd. There were 4 points in it into the final week with Gordon Everard coming through as the Champion. House wise - Duma took the lead early with Twiga chasing. This was all thanks to Kate Gardiner - the House Captain who never gave up chasing the Duma kids to answer the daily questions.

### **Junior School**

This term we had a very successful time with the General Knowledge. The children were, once again very enthusiastic and answered the questions each week. Each House had an overall boy and girl winner who had answered the most questions correctly throughout the term.

The following children were first in their Houses: Swara - Philipp Achammer & Bela Sharma, Duma - Henry Bertie & Gemma Gauntlett, Twiga - Michael Andrade & Megan Viljoen, Simba - Sam Horner & Kiara Jones.

The House results were as follows in the Junior Department: 1st - Swara, 2nd - Simba, 3rd - Duma and 4th - Twiga and in the Senior Department: 1st - Duma, 2nd - Twiga, 3rd - Swara and 4th Simba.

Congratulations to Gordon Everard on winning the Cup.

**A.C. & L. L.**

### **MOUNT KENYA TRIP MONDAY 22ND TO FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY**

On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, twelve pupils, two teachers and ten parents, friends and relatives met in the car park of The Banda to embark on the annual expedition to climb Mt. Kenya. The recent weather patterns promised a gruelling rain soaked attempt to summit Point Lenana and this dampened the hopes the staff had of all of the pupils achieving the summit. However, as the trip progressed, the Gods looked favourably on the group and most of the trek was completed in sunshine. This was a welcome development although the sub zero temperatures at night and the effect of the altitude made sleeping difficult. The trek began from the Sirimon gate and the first afternoon was spent walking throughout the forest and into the alpine moorland to our first camp near Old Moses. The night was spent under clear skies which resulted in a drop in temperature. The next morning a warm breakfast and mugs of hot chocolate invigorated the party who continued the trek to Leaky North camp in a picturesque valley. The afternoon was spent relaxing, observing the resident rock hyraxes, and the more adventurous took a much needed wash in the glacial river that flowed through the valley. The night again proved very cold, and the children and adults were pleased to see the sun rise over their sausage sandwiches in the morning. Unfortunately two of the parents had to descend on the third morning, reducing the party to twenty two as the group moved from Leaky North Camp on to Shiptons Camp at the base of the peaks. The afternoon was spent relaxing, checking kit and preparing for the attempt to summit the following morning. At 0230 the group was delicately woken by the guides and whilst final checks were made, cups of hot chocolate and porridge fortified the climbers. Two more adults were unable to continue due to the affects of altitude and this reduced the final party to twenty participants. The climb was made in cloudless conditions and as the sun rose, the snow dusting the summit became tantalisingly close. All of the pupils, staff and six parents reached the summit at 0730 and were rewarded with breathtaking views across the whole of Mt. Kenya National Park and beyond. The rest of the day was filled with the descent to the final camp, packing up and then the trek to Judamire Camp where we had spent the first night. The arrival at camp at 1700 marked the end of a very long and strenuous day. The staff and parents were surprised at the energy some of the pupils still retained as they laughed and entertained each other before bed time. It is important to thank not only the expertise of Savage Wilderness Safaris who led the expedition, but also the parents who lent their support, Mrs. Haywood who gave much needed encouragement and guidance on the trip, and finally to the pupils whose determination, team work and positive approach ensured this expedition was such a success.

**A.Nu.**

### **BRAEBURN SCIENCE FAYRE**

The teams participating in this year's Braeburn Science Fayre produced some spectacular projects. Investigations on the strength of shin pads, exploding coke bottles, the attractiveness of flowers to butterflies and the deadliness of bug spray were presented by the children. Particular favourites for the crowd were the exploding coke bottles and smashed eggs (shin pad project). The students had a wonderful day sharing their investigations and viewing those from other schools. The Fayre ended with a challenge – to build the highest tower possible with ten sheets of news paper and string to support an egg. After a fantastic effort by all our teams, the boy's team came third with a tower that reached over 2 metres! **D.F.**

### **YEAR 7 ECOLOGY TRIP**

On Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> January the Year 7 pupils spent the day investigating aspects of the Ecology of The Ngong Forest Sanctuary. The pupils studied the biodiversity of three different areas within the Sanctuary and as a result gained an understanding of the importance of conserving areas of indigenous forest. The warden of the forest and his staff outlined the methods used to protect the forest from the encroaching city and the children learned that these principles could be applied to many different conservation efforts across Kenya and further afield. The pupils were also rewarded with glimpses of secretive forest creatures such as the Red Duiker, Suni and Crowned Eagle amongst many other species. Our thanks must

go to the staff at the Ngong Forest as well as Mr Winchester and Miss McCrone for helping the pupils make the most of the day.

**A. Nu.**

### **PEPONI HOG CHARGE**

The 12th Annual Hog Charge event raised a record of Kshs.3,652,754.00 for maintenance of the Rhino Ark Aberdare Fence Project.

A total of 107 teams - ten more than last year - battled it out at the Kahawa Sukari Ranch, Ruiru on Sunday 17th January. Children from over 15 schools participated in this event and hundreds of supportive parents and friends attended.

The Hog Charge has now raised over Kshs.21 million for Rhino Ark since the first event in 1998.

Congratulations to all of the competitors who participated in the Hog Charge. The Banda fielded 16 teams full of boys and girls from years 5 – 8. It was brilliant to see so many pupils covered in mud with big grins on their faces. A special congratulations needs to go to the Storm Riders who managed to raise 95 thousand shillings for the charity event. All together The Banda students raised a mammoth 500 thousand shillings which will go towards the continued fencing of the Aberdares National Park.

Congratulations to the Bugs on Drugs who won the race as well as The Gauntlet in the Under 12 boy's category. The Mud Bugs who won the Under 12 overall race and the Ladybugs who won the gauntlet. The Pansy Pigs who won the Gauntlet in the Under 14 Mixed category.

A huge thank you must go towards Mrs. Francombe and Mrs. Grammaticas who organised The Banda tent and made the day a huge success. Also thank you to Mrs. Grant, Mrs. Humphreys, Mrs. Winchester and Mr. Dickson for all of their support on the day.

**T.M.**

### **YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO MALEWA**

On Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January, thirty students headed up to Malewa Bush Ventures with Mr. Murray, Mrs. Haywood and Mr. Nuttall to collect data for this year's Year 8 Common Entrance Course work. The data in question was to be obtained at four different sites along the river, each with its own unique features. Speed, depth and load size were the principal concerns and the students had a variety of basic equipment to aid them in their quest.

The data collection went extremely well, with the students behaving in a thoroughly mature and businesslike manner (although one or two of them accidentally fell in with their clipboards in hand and soaked all of their notes....oops). One student lost a slipper upstream on Monday morning but it was found by another group stuck in the reeds further downstream the next day. Many Ping-Pong balls were washed away to an uncertain fate and we almost lost a tape measure on day one, but it was all part of the fun and the students braved the ice-cold waters with admirable tenacity.

We also enjoyed a thoroughly beautiful walk up Kazuki Gorge on Sunday afternoon, with views extending all the way across Lake Naivasha and up Mt. Longonot. This was also the only time we had phone signal throughout the trip so the teachers took full advantage (even the mobile Internet was working!). Unfortunately, due to the collapse of a bridge near to our campsite, the walk was longer than planned as we could not access the gorge by road. Yet our long walk was insignificant compared to the long-suffering locals. For over one year now they have had to travel through the middle of the river on bikes, motorbikes and even by foot if they wish to go to town. It may only be knee-high at present, but there are times when it has been impassable, stranding people for days on both sides, totally unnoticed by the rest of Kenya, let alone the rest of the world.

The students also enjoyed the activities on offer on Monday afternoon, and I would like to thank Chris and Christine Campbell-Clause for adding a few extras "on the house" and really making it a super, if gruelling day. Thanks also go to Francis who cooked us some fabulous meals throughout and to David and Ernest who not only took us all there and back safely, but who also pitched in with the cooking, cleaning and anything else that needed doing. Big thanks also to Mr. Nuttall and Mrs. Haywood – they were a super help to me and couldn't have performed their duties more professionally. And last but not least, the students – they were simply superb in every aspect, especially at night where they let us get two good nights' sleep!

This trip has run successfully for the last two years and we seem to now have a working template to achieve what we need to achieve. I would have no hesitation in returning to Malewa next year with the current Year Seven students. I wish all the students who attended this trip this year all the best as they write up their projects.

**M. MU.**

### **YEAR 5 GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP TO BISEL**

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March, 38 Year 5 students and 4 teachers travelled down the Namanga road to the Masai town of Bisel, 62 km from the border with Tanzania. The road is greatly improved and the rebuilding has reached the town now, with just a few kilometres of diversion leading up to the main settlement. This allowed us to reach Bisel in two and a half hours, where we waited for Jack's dad, Russell Neylan, to come down in the Defender to guide us across through the bush to their farm.

A wonderful welcome awaited us and we quickly got our tents up and ate lunch before heading down the dry river bed for a long afternoon walk. It rained quite heavily at one point, but the sun came out in the end and we enjoyed looking at rock formations and analysing the differences between the rocks that we picked up en route. It was a super geographical learning experience!

We got back to the farm by 4.00 p.m. for a quick swim and a bounce on the trampoline – Mr. Osunga was the best as he mastered the forward flip, but the other teachers had a go too. At 6.00 p.m. it was time to go and milk the cows. Much fun was had herding them from the bottom of a slope all the way to the top, before everyone had a chance to do some milking and mix with the local Masai community.

The evening was then spent telling stories around the campfire with hot chocolate and a few games led by Miss. Neave. Some of the stories were a bit scary and we were relieved when jokes were told instead, but good fun was had by all. The students then went to bed and literally did not disturb us until morning – a huge credit to them! The teachers sat with the Neylans around the camp fire and enjoyed the amazingly clear skies.

We were up bright and early the next morning and after a delicious breakfast we headed up to higher ground to do some sketching. The setting was wonderful as many giraffe were walking around very close to where we were seated. Some very good sketches were produced as Miss. Neave used the opportunity to maximum effect.

I would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Neylan for being superb hosts and for opening their farm to us for two whole days. Their preparations were faultless and it was surely a daunting experience, but they faced it with a terrific sense of humour. David, Ernest and Francis also deserve much appreciation for the driving and cooking, as do all the teachers who accompanied this trip. Many thanks to everyone involved, and especially to the children who represented the school so well. This, along with the friendship, hard work and the fun are what Banda trips are all about. **M. MU.**

### **INTERNAL VERSE SPEAKING COMPETITION FINALS**

53 finalists declaimed their pieces for the judges. Many thanks to Miss Rutter and Mrs. Francombe for their sterling efforts. The variety of poems chosen was very wide and the high standard was a testament for the hard work and enthusiasm of the children.

#### **Finalists**

**Year 4** - Tom Stone-Wigg, Ben Stone-Wigg & Ricky Scher

**Year 5** - Pablo Samoilys, Christian Mathews, Ian Elms, Myles Jenkins, Kirsty McLean, Myles Root & Carla Norris

**Year 6** - Annabel Shaw, Aashka Gorajia, Ahwal Mhajan, Kajetana Minns, Caitlin Staley, Oriole Viljoen & Daisy Bartlett

**Year 7** - Jaimee Harris, Esenya Mathews, Matthew Seth-Smith, Jack Ogden, Carella Brown, Saahil Shah, Taru Carr-Hartley & Georgia Taylor

**Year 8** - Arthur Norman, Tehseen Omar, Diana Maganda, Laurence Willsher, Christopher Barnett, Akinyi Manners, Anastasia Ogden, Elvis Sangwa, Emma Goss & Davide Bernardi

#### **3rd Place**

**Year 5** - Emilia Tozer & Alana Willsher

**Year 6** - Ella Norman & Emily Stone-Wigg

**Year 7** - Cara Valentine

**Year 8** - Luke Syrett

#### **2nd Place**

**Year 4** - Joey Lord & Imara-Bella Thorpe

**Year 5** - Nanouri Winchester

**Year 6** - Sophia Sander

**Year 7** - Theodore Winchester

**Year 8** - Emily Willis

#### **1st Place**

**Year 4** - Megan Griffiths

**Year 5** - Emma Carter

**Year 6** - Charlotte Ball

**Year 7** - Jessica Humphreys

**Year 8** - Tabitha Syrett

The Martine Cup was awarded to Tabitha Syrett who scored 69 out of a possible 70 marks for her absolutely amazing performance of "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes. **L. G.**

### **YEAR 7 ROMEO AND JULIET PERFORMANCE**

For an English and Drama project, the Year 7's studied one of Shakespeare's plays. This year it was Romeo and Juliet.

We were all told what characters we were going to perform. Little did we know we were going to have to write the scenes ourselves! The students in Set One were each given responsibility for a scene. The rest of it was up to us and the others helping with the scenes.

Writing the scenes was not easy but finally they were finished and it was rehearsal time! Learning lines was also no easy task. Especially with the change of language.

After more rehearsals it was time for the performance! Many of us were really worried about forgetting lines or which scene we were in. There were many styles of language, some old Shakespearean language and some modern day American! Most of the costumes were brought in from home and some props as well.

I know that myself and many other students really enjoyed it and, of course none of it could have happened without the teachers. For putting the pieces together and making sure we were all speaking clearly and in the right place at the right time, thank you Mr. Winchester, Mrs. Winchester and Mrs. Haywood. We all really enjoyed ourselves!

**Cara Valentine**

### **LIGHT CHILDREN'S ORPHANAGE AND SCHOOL IN ONGATA RONGAI**

Over the last few weeks, a combined effort between The Banda and some of our parents has resulted in our being able to send supplies of free, fresh vegetables, a couple of times each week, to this orphanage in Rongai. The vegetables come from VegePro with lots of help from Angus Douglas-Hamilton, and from everyone involved, a big thank you to him for all of his help and a huge thank you to all involved from the children who are able to have a few meals each week that contain good fresh produce!

Wendy Rutter has information and photographs for anyone who would like to know more about this orphanage and it's needs.

**W. R.**

### **"WORLD DANCE WEEK CELEBRATIONS"**

World Dance Day, on the 29<sup>th</sup> April, is being supported and celebrated by Dance Sport Kenya by offering to help promote dance and the arts in schools by holding a series of dance workshops. Invitations are extended to pupils, parents, relatives, friends and teachers to join in the fun and join in the workshops on offer.

Dates : Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> April and also Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Venue: Brookhouse School

Time: beginning at 10.00 a.m. through 4.00 p.m. in the afternoon.

There will also be an early evening display of the workshops experienced offering the opportunity for pupils to demonstrate the skills and routines they have been enjoying as part of their usual dance lessons during a school week as well as free dancing to a disco or a live band for everyone to join in. Dancers of all ages are welcome; just go along and enjoy dancing.

Workshops could potentially include Latin, ballroom, tango, hip hop, urban, jazz, disco hustle, rock n rock, ballet and modern ballet.

Please let Wendy Rutter know at the beginning of next term if you are interested and would like to attend or if you would like more information. You could also e-mail The Banda or [deputyhead@bandaschool.com](mailto:deputyhead@bandaschool.com) or you could also e-mail Dance Sport Kenya directly to learn more about their plans. [AKKesSmith@gmail.com](mailto:AKKesSmith@gmail.com)

**W.R.**

### **THE SAFARICOM FAMILY CHALLENGE 2010**

Dear Parents

I am sure that you have heard about the success of the first Safaricom Family Challenge last year. We are now well under way in planning The Safaricom Family Challenge 2010, to be held at Malewa near Gilgil on the 11th and 12th September, the first weekend after school resumes in September.

The number of teams will be limited, so if you want to enter a team all you need to do now is to submit a team name and the Kshs.10,000/= minimum sponsorship to secure your place. All the paperwork can be done nearer the time.

If you would like to sponsor one of the challenges, please contact the committee: [kenyakamili@gmail.com](mailto:kenyakamili@gmail.com) and we will send you details.

Please enclose payment of Kshs.10,000/= with your entries. Cheques should be made out to Kamili Organisation. Send your entry to P.O. Box 23203, Nairobi 00604 - E-mail: [kenyakamili@gmail.com](mailto:kenyakamili@gmail.com) Tel: 0716-424987.

We look forward to seeing you there!

**The Family Challenge Committee, Melanie Blake, Peponi House**

### **INTERNATIONAL TENNIS FEDERATION U14 TOURNAMENT**

Congratulations to Beth Gunson on being selected to represent Kenya in the U14 International Tennis Federation Tournament which takes place from the 21st - 25th April.

The Banda is very proud of this personal achievement and we wish her every success.

**M. D. Dickson**

### **UNIFORM**

We would like to thank Mrs. McLean for her hard work in running the second-hand shop.

**Would parents please make sure that all their children's belongings are clearly marked.**

## REGULAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

### April Term 2010

**Term Starts:** Tuesday 20th April

**First Half Ends:** Thursday 27th May

**Restart:** Wednesday 2nd June

**Term Ends:** Friday 9th July

### September Term 2010

**Term Starts:** Tuesday 7th September

**First Half Ends:** Friday 15th October

**Restart:** Monday 25th October

**Term Ends:** Friday 10th December

### January Term 2011

**Term Starts:** Tuesday 11th January

**First Half Ends:** Wednesday 16th February

**Restarts:** Monday 21st February

**Term Ends:** Friday 25th March

## COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION DATES

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of Year 8 that the Common Entrance written papers will be sat on Monday 7th - Wednesday 9th June 2010.

Listening and Speaking Exams for Maths and French will be held from Wednesday 19th - Friday 21st May. Year 8 will be given more details about these next term. **S.W.**

## BUS SERVICE

The fee for the use of the bus service is Kshs.29,500.00 (Kshs.14,750.00 one way only) and is charged at the beginning of term on the school account.

We are most grateful to Mrs. Vora, Mrs. Dodhia and Mrs. Mwaura for acting as bus escorts.

**LAVINGTON:** Mornings leave Lavington at 7.25 am  
Evenings leave Banda at 3.50 pm  
Arrive Lavington at 4.30 pm

**WESTLANDS:** Mornings leave Sarit Centre at 7.20 am  
Evenings leave Banda at 3.50 pm  
Arrive Sarit Centre at 4.30 pm

**MUTHAIGA:** Mornings leave Mobil Plaza at 7.15 am  
Evenings leave Banda 3.50 pm  
Arrive Mobil Plaza at 4.45 pm

Please would parents collect children **PROMPTLY** from the Bus Terminals, so as not to delay the escorts.

**CAR CHILDREN** should be delivered to school before 8.15 am. There is no objection to their being dropped off earlier as there is always a member of staff on duty from 8.00 am. Car children may be collected at 3.45 pm.

# SPORTS SECTION

## 1ST XI BOYS HOCKEY

Played: 6 Won: 5 Lost: 1

We were fortunate to have a fabulous bunch of boys for our hockey team this term: they worked hard, played with passion and liked to win. All in all in our six matches we scored 28 goals and conceded just 8. This goes to show that we had both an attacking force and were also strong defensively. The boys slotted into their roles and very quickly made them their own. The first highlight of the season was getting off to a cracking start against Kenton, beating them 10 – 2 and calling the game up early. It showed what firepower we had up front and it really was majestic to watch. After wins against Braeburn, Peponi and Turi we had the low point of the season: our single loss to Pembroke. We had tried to change our game plan and it had not worked. The boys realised that they must stick to the basic principle of hitting the ball wide and attacking down the wings. After our half term tour to the UK the boys came back all the more improved and beat Pembroke convincingly in the return fixture 8 – 2. Thus ended our 11-a-side season, and what a high it was. The boys had improved all season and we ended with a real team effort rather than a particular individual dominating the game. We were very proud of how far the boys had come and wish them luck in the future.

Finally, to Davide our captain: well done on leading your team so ably throughout this season. You were a credit to The Banda both on and off the pitch and you have helped inspire those younger than you to follow in your footsteps. Well done indeed.

1<sup>st</sup> Team: Christopher Barnett, Joe Mwangi, Russell Parkinson, Laurence Willsher, Abi Light, Dudi Brighetti, Ben Gardiner, Theo Winchester, Luke Syrett, Calum Macfie, Arthur Norman, Gordon Everard and Davide Bernardi (Captain).

Colours were awarded to: Davide Bernardi, Gordon Everard, Laurence Willsher, Luke Syrett, Theodore Winchester and Christopher Barnett.

**S.K.**

## KENTON 6-A-SIDE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

### U11

They played Greensteds, Braeburn Mombasa, Braeburn Nairobi and Pembroke and finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in their pool.

They went on to play Hillcrest who were winners of the other pool and beat them 2-1 making it to the final.

In the final, they met Pembroke to whom they had lost in the pool matches. It was a very entertaining and close final but eventually Pembroke scored a goal in the final minutes.

The Banda were the runners up.

Well done to Sean Grant, Kieran Hill, Batian Thorpe, Sebastian Width, Shaylaan Savani, Oliver Muhoho and Harry Griffiths.

**J.O.**

### U13

A glorious sunny morning greeted the squad as they arrived at Kenton. The boys were in good spirits, although a couple were suffering from severe coughs. We started the day well with convincing victories over Braeburn Mombasa International School and Hillcrest, during which we played some super hockey. A combination of bad luck and a dip in form saw us draw with Kenton and lose to St. Andrew's. nevertheless we qualified for the semi-final.

We were drawn to play Braeburn at that stage. What a match it was. The Banda dominated the first half but were unable to score. Braeburn then seized the initiative after the break, took the lead and dominated proceedings. However, a massive effort from our boys brought them a thoroughly deserved equaliser from the last play of the game. And so to golden goal extra time. Again the boys played superbly, coming close to a goal on three occasions. Unfortunately lady luck continued to frown on us and it was Braeburn who snatched the decisive goal.

Braeburn went on to win the trophy and The Banda squad and coaches all know that we were a whisker away. The boys were magnificent in their attitude and commitment throughout. Congratulations to them all.

SQUAD: Davide Bernardi (Captain), Gordon Everard, Luke Syrett, Theo Winchester, Laurence Willsher, Christopher Barnett and Saahil Shah.

**S.K.**

## NAIROBI V UP-COUNTRY SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

This match was played on Sunday morning on the City Park Astroturf. It was a cracking game, with many chances at both ends. Victory eventually went to the Up-Country Schools by 2 goals to nil. Congratulations to the following boys from The Banda who were selected to play, and as always, did the school proud: Davide Bernardi, Christopher Barnett, Gordon Everard, Luke Syrett, Laurence Willsher and Theo Winchester

**S.K.**

## 2ND XI BOYS HOCKEY

**Played: 8 Won: 5 Drew: 2 Lost: 1**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI boys Hockey team recorded a superb season and demonstrated an ability to play together effectively. The season began slowly with a first fixture against the Hillcrest 1<sup>st</sup> XI which we lost in somewhat uncharacteristic style. Following this initial defeat the boys soon began to show increased awareness, skill and team spirit both on the training field and importantly in competitive fixtures. As the season progressed every boy in Years 7 and 8 participated in at least two matches for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and this strength and depth to the squad was a real asset. During many of the fixtures the boys were required to play in different positions due to the rotating nature of the substitutes and the fact that they were able to do this whilst maintaining their shape as a team was testament to their overall ability and team play. Equally important was the boys willingness to play for each other and as a result some fantastic goals were scored. The team did not look back from their first match, only drawing a fixture with the Brookhouse 1<sup>st</sup> XI and later the Turi team, where we dominated the game but could not put the ball in the back of the goal. After all of the other matches the boys emerged convincing winners by healthy goal margins having demonstrated and enjoyed some superb Hockey.

**A. Nu & S. Am.**

## U11A BOYS HOCKEY

**Played: 6 Won: 1 Drew: 3 Lost: 2**

The season started well with the boys getting a clear 2-1 win vs. Peponi House.

A good nil all draw against Braeburn Nairobi was a good match to watch with both teams playing their hearts out.

The teams travelled to the countryside to play St Andrews Turi and Pembroke. We drew against Turi and Pembroke, and Pembroke proved a hard nut to crack both home and away.

The boys were plagued with yet another one all draw against Kenton College.

All in all the boys enjoyed the season and had a lot to learn from each of the matches they played. Well done to all who played for the A team.

Colours were awarded to: Kieran Hill, Harry Griffiths, Sean Grant and Oliver Muhoho.

**J.O.**

## U11B BOYS HOCKEY

**Played: 5 Won: 2 Drawn: 3**

This term the Under 11B team has played some fantastic hockey. Kitali Mwendwa has been a superstar in goal proving difficult to score against due to his agility, even in the full keeping kit. He has been well protected by the solid defending from Oliver Francombe, Ian Elms, Thomas Bagot, Karan Chadha and Toby Grammaticas. Throughout the season the midfield and attack have created many chances and also pleased the coach and supporters by playing an entertaining style of hockey. The whole squad should be proud of all that they have achieved this term; an unbeaten season and only conceding three goals in 5 games is a fantastic result and testament to their dedication and hard work both in training sessions and in the matches.

**T.M.**

## U11C BOYS HOCKEY

**Played: 1 Lost: 1**

The boys worked hard all season and should be given credit for their commitment to training sessions. Our only match was against Peponi in week 4 of the term. The game unfortunately went against us despite The Banda being in control for most of the match and having 4 shots at goal! Peponi had 1 shot and took it well to win the match 1-0. Despite the loss, all the boys thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were a credit to themselves in terms of competitiveness and sportsmanship.

**B.S.**

## U9 BOYS HOCKEY

**U9A - Played: 5 Won: 3 Lost: 1 Drew: 1**

The Under 9A boys were always going to be a talented team. The major problem the coaches had to contend with was how to take these likeable, affable, courteous bunch of boys and turn them into a hungry, ruthless, fighting team. Well the coaches managed it. The hockey played was text book. Water tight and aggressive at the back, a tireless work ethic in the middle and some superb finishes up front. Despite a loss to Braeburn, the rest of the season produced lots of goals and wins against Pembroke, Kenton and Hillcrest. Brilliant performances by all throughout the season. Keep your sticks down, your heads up and stay on the wide on the wing and you will be fine settling into the Senior School next year.

**S.K.**

**U9B - Played: 5 Won: 4 Drew: 1**

The Under 9B hockey team have completed a thoroughly successful season. They started off slowly. It took a last gasp equaliser in their opening match against Peponi to ignite the well oiled hockey machine. The boys got the 'rabbit in the head lights' syndrome out of their system and for the rest of the season produced beautiful and decisive hockey. They brushed away Braeburn, Brookhouse, Hillcrest and Kenton, the rabbit shedding it's skin to reveal a rabid dog spirit. An unbeaten season and an incredible effort by all the boys who took part. It was such a pleasure to see the boys improve so quickly in a relatively short amount of time. Work hard boys and we will see you in the 'A' team next year!

**S. Am.**

**U9C - Played: 2 Won: 2**

The Under 9C hockey team thoroughly enjoyed their season and they practised hard. We were only able to arrange two fixtures but by using the boys for half a game each every in Year 3 and 4 was given the opportunity to represent the school. I am delighted to report that we played some super hockey and were victorious in our matches against Braeburn and Peponi. Well done to all the boys.

**S.W.**

### **1ST XI GIRLS HOCKEY**

**Played: 6 Won: 2 Drew: 3 Lost: 1**

This season was relatively light on matches as we were away on the UK Hockey Tour for 10 days.

We started with what was definitely our toughest match against Kenton, and although we played well, lost 2 - 4. The girls positions were quickly established so there was not much juggling or changing after that.

Esenya Mathews and Anastasia Ogden were fantastic wings, staying wide and they quickly learnt to take on an opponent, run the ball down the line then drive it across the circle. Olivia Harrison and Isabelle Norris worked tirelessly as inners, linking with the wings and coming back to help in defence when we were under pressure. Cara Valentine was a determined centre forward and learnt to stick closely to the goal keepers pads and sweep any loose ball.

Siobhan Shaw, Jessica Humphreys and Emily Wills, were rock solid as halves, tackled strongly and fed the forwards cleanly. Nicola Francombe and Antonia Szapary played strongly at the back, tackling hard and hitting the ball clear.

Tabitha Syrett was a fantastic utility player, able to play anywhere on the pitch, in attack or in defence.

Gemma Herd too proved to be very adaptable, preferring defence but really playing her position very well.

Anya's goal keeping improved steadily throughout the season. She learnt to come out to meet the ball, take on an attacker, and made many important saves.

We had many chances in our matches to score, but were often unable to convert them into goals - frustrating for parents, girls and coach alike! In the triangular matches versus Pembroke and St. Andrews, Turi, both games ended in draws, which was not really a true reflection of how well we played. We had a convincing win against Braeburn 5 - 1 and should have beaten Peponi resoundingly, but had to settle for a 1 - 0 victory.

All the girls who played for the 1st XI came on the UK hockey tour and had the opportunity to play on Astroturf. Their stick work, understanding of the game and team work improved tremendously. However, they were still not keen to pass the ball backwards, it may work on astro, but not on grass!! Old habits die hard!

They have been a super group of girls to coach, always enthusiastic and 100% committed during practice sessions and matches. Also they have really worked as a team, supporting each other and being positive even under pressure. Many thanks to all of our very supportive parents, I do appreciate your positive comments and encouragement from the sideline.

A special thanks to Nigel Shaw and Richard Stone-Wigg who came to our 2 astro practice sessions, giving up precious Sunday morning time (early too!) to give us some great coaching and working with individuals to understand their positions and the job they needed to do.

Good luck to all the girls with their hockey in the future, they all have the ability to be extremely good and talented players.

Colours were awarded to: Emily Willis, Siobhan Shaw, Tabitha Syrett, Esenya Mathews, Anya Mangat and Antonia Szapary.

**A.G.**

### **UK HOCKEY TOUR**

**18th - 28th February 2010**

We started planning this tour in September 2008, so the realisation that we were finally off was a fairly huge moment.

26 excited children and 4 staff met at JKIA at 10.00 a.m. on February 18th, along with a huge array of luggage - goal keeping kit, hockey sticks, sleeping bags and personal suitcases, as well as our very smart Kenya coloured hand holdalls. Dressed in our smart No.1 kit we said farewell to parents, and had a super flight to Heathrow with Virgin Airlines.

Our first 2 nights were spent in Christowe House at Cheltenham College, thanks to Nick Nelson and his wife Katy who allowed us free range. Paul looked after our food, feeding us delicious breakfasts and supper.

Trevor and Anne Davies were around to help and support us, having organised so much for our stay.

We had 2 super astro turf sessions and the girls managed an hour of netball in the indoor sports hall.

Huge thanks to Caroline Park and Mathew Bull, the sports teachers at the college who gave up their time and were inspirational with their coaching.

We then moved on to Kingswood in Bath making a quick detour to visit SS Great Britain in Bristol and sample the delights of McDonalds!

Gordon and Jen Opie looked after us amazingly, we spent one night in Middle House together, then the children were hosted for 2 nights. Apprehensive initially but they all had a fantastic time.

Our first match against Kingswood was amazingly played under clear blue skies and sunshine, it was almost warm! The girls won 3 - 2, the boys losing 5 - 1.

On Monday we travelled back to Cheltenham to play Dean Close. These games were played in freezing conditions with a bitter wind too. The girls had a super match, unfortunately losing 1 - 0, whilst the boys fought hard but lost 3 - 1.

On Wednesday we headed to The Downs College Prep in Malvern, where Sam Cook, formerly of Pembroke, is now Headmaster. Unfortunately 2 inches of snow meant our match was abandoned. However, we had a fantastic 2 hours in their new sports hall playing 6-a-side hockey, great fun and we managed to win more matches than lose! The children also had a great snowball fight and made snow angels on the Astro turf.

On Wednesday we headed for Clayesmore College where the boys played a triangular against them and Chafyn Grove. The scores were lost 1 - 0 v Clayesmore and drew 1 - 1 against Chafyn. The girls played netball in pouring rain but in great spirit. We lost one game 4 - 2, and won the other 7 - 5 so called it an honourable draw! Again hosted by parents the children had an amazing time. At Clayesmore, Steve Wilson, known fondly as "the one armed bandit" and his team, gave us the rarely performed and reserved for special guests, 3 Hussars Salute. A sight none of us will forget.

Thursday we set off for Hurstpierpoint in Sussex, where we were looked after by Tim and Sian Cattaneo, former Banda teachers. It was freezing and the rain was torrential. The girls played first and astounded us all by playing some awesome hockey, winning 5 - 0! The boys then upped a gear and won 1 - 0. Again hosted the children enjoyed themselves tremendously.

Friday morning we set off for London. We went straight to the Tower of London seeing the Crown Jewels and the ravens. Then after a great "Subway" lunch we strolled along the Thames. After checking in to the Holland Park Youth Hostel, a quick change into our "Saints" T-shirts we rushed to Pizza Express for a delicious supper. Then off to The Lyceum to watch "The Lion King". Amazing.

Early Saturday, after a quick but excellent breakfast we went to the Household Cavalry Regiment, off Hyde Park in Knightsbridge, where Rufus gave us a most incredible tour. We met the 4 shire horses that carry the massive kettle drums, then Hugo, a black cavalry horse who stands 18.3 hands high. He was amazingly gentle and let the children hug and touch him. We were then allowed to jump onto "Custard", Joe Mwangi looked as if he was riding off, into the distance, not too comfortably either.

We then had an hours tour around London in the coach looking at various important and famous landmarks.

After a picnic lunch in Hyde Park we walked to the Science Museum for a couple of hours. Then we headed out to the Heathrow Airport to check in, do some final shopping (sweets mainly) and get rather wearily onto our Virgin flight home.

Throughout the trip we were driven around by Adrian, a most wonderful man, who was our chief supporter at every match, got to know all the children and was always amenable to sudden changes of plan. He became our, 31st tour member and was a delight!

The 26 children were a credit to The Banda. Polite and well mannered, interested and enthusiastic, they all made a huge impression on everyone they met, and made some fantastic friends along the way.

Again many thanks to Mr. Winchester, Mr. Kenworthy and Mrs. Coate for all their hard work, organisation and efforts before and during this once in a lifetime trip.

**A.G.**

## **PEPONI 6-A-SIDE HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**

### **U13**

6-a-side is never an easy game. The team has to forget all the coaching tips about their positions learnt throughout the term and just go for it! Hit the ball hard up the pitch and hope a forward gets a stick to it. However, this tactic worked for us in the group matches!

Our first match was against Pembroke, with lots of nerves and final questions - "What if Mrs. G.?" A great start with a 1 - 0 victory gave the girls confidence and reassured their parents (a little!!)

We then played Peponi and had a tough match that ended in a 1 - 1 draw. Against Greensteds we took a quick 2 - 0 lead but when they scored a quick goal, a slight element of panic set in. We settled for a 2 - 1 win. Braeburn Mombasa fought well but we managed to score two excellent goals so eventually went through as winners of our group.

In the semi final we met St. Andrews Turi who were aggressive and determined, but so were we. After full time and the extra five minutes of golden goal, of nail biting, heart stopping play we were still equal. This meant the dreaded one on one. Siobhan Shaw, Tabitha Syrett and Jessica Humphreys took on the responsibility and with Anya Mangat in goal put under huge pressure. After one round we were still equal so it went to sudden death. St. Andrews, Turi went through to play an excellent final against Kenton.

We played some fantastic hockey and I must congratulate all the girls for their commitment and determination; they were a great team, encouraging each other and commiserating too!

We had the most amazingly supportive group of parents too, thank you for your enthusiasm and positive comments.

**A.G.**

### **U11**

We faced a couple of tough opponents in our pool games. Pembroke was our first game and we made sure Kiara Munn marked their strongest player out of the game. This led to a 2 - 0 win. Braeburn were next and again their strongest player was marked closely resulting in a 0 - 0 draw. St. Andrews and Brookhouse were relatively easy wins. However Braeburn had one goal more than us going through to the semi finals so we went through as Runners Up meeting Kenton. This was a closely fought match which went to extra time and then "one on ones". Mrs. Coate had been determined that our "one on ones" would be well practised this year. Therefore Natasha Tisminieszky and Kiara Munn slotted their goals easily to take us through to the final. Charlotte Ball in goal was cool, calm and collected and did not let Kenton score.

The final was another high pressured game. It was 0 - 0 after full time, so we headed into extra time and "golden goal". Unfortunately with seconds to go Braeburn scored which made us Runners Up on the day.

Our other players on the day were Madeleine Hobbs, Kara Beresford, Talya Herd and special mention must go to Kyela Brennan for her superb defence.

Well done and bad luck girls.

**A.C.**

### **NAIROBI V UP-COUNTRY GIRLS HOCKEY**

Congratulations to Emily Willis, Siobhan Shaw, Tabitha Syrett and Esenya Mathews for being selected to represent Nairobi Schools against Up Country on Sunday morning at the Astroturf. Despite having rained all night the pitch was perfect to play on. What a game! End to end play, some incredible hockey and a huge and supportive crowd. The final score of 4 - 4 was a credit to both teams who fought hard and deserved to be called "the best of the best". Next year girls!

**A.G.**

### **2ND XI GIRLS HOCKEY**

**Played: 8 Won: 6 Drew: 1 Lost: 1**

The 2nd XI team should be extremely proud of the way in which they have performed this term. Their hard work and commitment have been exceptional, and I have rarely seen a 2nd team perform of this standard. Most of the girls remained with roughly the same positions throughout the term, and there was a tremendous improvement in the way they carried out their particular roles. The forward row learned the importance of communication and passing between them, and the halves and backs provided a solid and committed defence.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working with this group of girls - well done to you all.

**L.H.**

### **3RD XI GIRLS HOCKEY**

**Played: 1 Won: 1**

Well done to all the girls involved in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hockey Team. In our practice sessions I noticed determination and eagerness and, over the course of the term, was thrilled to see many of their hockey skills improve. Unfortunately we only had one match versus Peponi but I am pleased to report the girls were not only excited and keen but that they also managed to secure an encouraging victory. I was not only impressed but have also enjoyed the season a great deal, mainly due to the enthusiasm and drive I met on the field from this wonderful group of girls. Thank you!

**D.Mc.**

### **U11 GIRLS HOCKEY**

**U11A - Played: 5 Won: 5**

**U11B - Played : 6 Won: 5 Drew: 1**

**U11C - Played : 2 Won: 1 Lost: 1**

### **U11A**

An unbeaten season! I was very pleased with this squad of girls for their listening skills. They picked up on all of the teaching points and applied them to their matches. The ball was classically played out wide to the wings shared by Madeleine Hobbs, Emily Stone-Wigg, Ella Norman and Sascha Taylor. The top goal scorer was Natasha Tisminieszky closely followed by Annie Lord. Our "hard working" halves were Annabel Shaw, Talya Herd and Kiara Munn, knowing that they had Oriole Viljoen as a strong sweeper to back them up. Our solid defence consisted of Kyela Brennan, Coral Hays and Charlotte Ball as Goal Keeper.

All in all - a winning combination. Well done girls on a fabulous season!

Colours were awarded to: Natasha Tisminieszky, Charlotte Ball, Kyela Brennan, Kiara Munn and Talya Herd. **A.C.**

### **U11B**

The Under 11B team have been a wonderful team to coach. Looking back to the start of the term, the standard of hockey has been extremely impressive and has progressively improved. The girls have come out of the season with an unbeaten

track record which they should all be extremely proud of. My only suggestion for future improvement would be that they should not be so nice and polite! (That statement refers only to their on-pitch attitude.) Most half time talks would involve a request from me that they become "hard core, crazy, goal scoring freaks" when they reach the D area. They managed the goal scoring part and I guess I am quite lucky the rest of it was not completely adopted and they all remained nicely behaved young Banda Ladies. Good job girls, you did well. **K.A.**

### **U11C**

It is always lovely to make sure that all the children at this age level can compete for the school. In our first match against Peponi, 11 girls played a 7-a-side match and although very strong, we lost 1-0, but Sakhee Shah captained us proudly. 12 girls played in an 11-a-side match against Braeburn, where we were stronger and won handsomely. Well done to all the girls who played. **K.M.**

### **Under 9 GIRLS HOCKEY**

**A: Played : 5 Won: 5**

**Goals for: 17 Goals against: 1**

**B: Played: 4 Won: 3 Lost: 1**

**C: Played: 2 Won: 2 Lost: 1**

### **U9A**

The team have had a super season and should be suitably proud of their success on the hockey pitch.

In the 5 matches they have played their game has improved considerably, their spatial awareness and positioning are so much better, and they have understood the importance of hitting the ball wide. We are not completely there yet but it is coming! Some of them have had the confidence to take on an opponent using the "silky right" move and have tackled low and hard.

Imara-Bella Thorpe on the Right Wing, Joey Lord on the Left Wing and Megan Viljoen as Centre Forward really started to pass the ball well amongst themselves; they worked hard in the circle to convert a loose ball into a goal, and can now see the importance of trying to sweep a ball off the goal keepers pads!

Kiara Jones has done well as a Half, tackling hard and pushing the ball up to her forwards.

Megan Griffiths has been a solid last line of defence as a Back, tackling strongly and hitting the ball away from the danger zone!

Krista Hill has been fantastic as Centre Half, able to cover a huge amount of ground, helping her forwards in attacks, then running back to defend. Charlie Cottar, Gemma Gauntlett and Alexandra Kranck have all had a go at playing Goal Keeper, performing well under pressure and kicking the ball clear and wide when needed. Never an easy position to play at Under 9 level!

I have been very pleased with the girls commitment in practice sessions and during matches. There is always a tendency to play up and down the middle of the pitch but they have tried hard to send a pass wide or into space. Their hitting has become more consistent; they can all hit the ball hard when they think about it!!

Thank you to all of our very supportive parents, your positive comments and enthusiasm is much appreciated by both the girls and myself. **A. G.**

### **U9B**

The Under 9 B team has had a successful term with a great deal of effort being shown by everyone that played. The team players changed throughout the term, but the determination to win remained the same. With very little previous hockey experience, the team tactics developed from 'free for all' to a more specific positional approach. It was pleasing (and quite a relief) to see the level of game awareness improve, and now that we are at the end of the term, it is great to see how much the girls have progressed and they should be extremely proud of their achievements. **K.A.**

### **U9C**

The Under 9C team had a very successful season this term. The girls all became more dedicated and focussed throughout the term and I saw a noticeable improvement in their hockey skills. They have become more proficient in passing the ball and remaining on task during the game. I look forward to seeing them improve upon their skill next year. **L.L.**

## **HILLCREST U9 BOYS & GIRLS HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**

### **U9 BOYS**

The Under 9A Boys went into the hot and sweaty Hillcrest Festival full of confidence and verve. Their first match was against Greensteds with whom they promptly swept aside with eye catching, flowing hockey. The Under 9A wing play was too much for Greensteds and eventually they won 2 - 0. The next match was won too with a fine victory over St. Andrews 1 - 0. The next game was tougher. Kenton were a competent side playing superb hockey. Yet again The Banda boys showed great resolve and scored on the counter attack to beat Kenton 1 - 0.

The sun made the biggest impact in the final against Braeburn. The children had given everything in the afternoon heat but this hurdle proved one step too far. The Banda eventually lost 1 - 0 in a tight affair. The children should be thoroughly proud of their achievements on the day and of being true ambassadors for The Banda. The players slept soundly that night with only the words of their goalkeeper still ringing in their ears. Philipp shouting at the top of his voice, "get out of my D!!".

**S.K.**

## **U9 GIRLS**

We headed off on the short trip to Hillcrest Prep full of high spirits and enthusiasm. There were 8 teams in the girls event, separated into 2 qualifying groups. The draw was very kind to us as we had a match then a rest then another match. Lucky as it was a very hot day with blue skies!

We played Peponi first and beat them 2 - 0, then a 6 - 0 win against Pembroke, with all the girls attacking fiercely and putting pressure on the goal keeper.

We had a tough game against Greensteds but settled for a 0 - 0 draw which meant we went through as inners of our group. We played Kenton in the final play off for 1st position. We were all nervous but the girls put pressure on their defence immediately and scored quickly. Our defenders made some good tackles and after 10 long minutes we had won 1 - 0!

Well played to all the girls who always tried their hardest. A super way to end a very successful unbeaten season. Thank you to all our parent supporters and for the chocolate! **A.G.**

## **SQUASH**

This was another strong squash season for The Banda. We dominated the fixtures in our school matches. Unfortunately squash is not a high priority in the other schools.

Our most fiercely fought matches were internally in our Bowers & Geddes competition. The boys entered the competition with Davide Bernardi as the outright favourite. Davide beat Gordon Everard and went on to win it. The girls were much more even this term and it had been difficult to select the seeding. In the end Esenya Mathews beat Jessica Humphreys and came through to take the cup.

Colours were awarded to: Davide Bernardi, Gordon Everard, Theodore Winchester, Laurence Willsher and Natasha Tisminieszky.

### **HOUSE SQUASH MATCHES**

The House Squash was easier for Davide Bernardi to win as Gordon Everard dropped out with an injury. Therefore Twiga won the boys. The girls were much closer with Esenya Mathews (Twiga), Antonia Szapary (Simba) and Anya Mangat (Swara) all sharing 1st equal.

### **IAPS SQUASH**

The IAPS Squash was another showcase for our boys with both the "A" and the "B" teams going through to the semi finals. Unfortunately our "A" team put the "B" team out but went through to win the trophy for the 8th year in a row. This team was Davide Bernardi, Gordon Everard and Theodore Winchester.

The girls were not so easy as the seeding had been difficult. Our "B" team beat the "A" team putting the pressure on themselves to bring the trophy home. Thank goodness for the 8th year in a row Beth Gunson, Antonia Szapary and Natasha Tisminieszky won the silverware.

Squash is a very popular sport within The Banda and I know the children will go from strength to strength in this area. **A.C.**

## **SWIMMING IN SCHOOL**

This was another very successful season on the swimming front. Last term we welcomed our new swimming coach – Slavica. Teddy and Slavica have worked hard with the children in lessons and in the squad sessions. There seems to be more and more children opting to do extra swimming training before and after school.

The new Banda swimsuits have been introduced and the children look very smart in them. The testing system has continued and the children are still keen to progress through to blue, green and then black. They receive recognition in assemblies when they are presented with their certificates. The strength and depth throughout the school from Pre-Prep through to Year 8 is very impressive.

### **IAPS SWIMMING GALA**

The IAPS swimming gala was hosted by The Banda this year. It was a resounding success. Out of 42 races we had 25 first places, 9 second places, 7 third places and 1 fourth place. Imara-Bella and Batian Thorpe swam new IAPS records as did our Under 9 girls medley relay team. With such great results it was no surprise that both the Boys and the Girls brought the silverware back home.

### **NASA SWIMMING GALAS**

Some of our top swimmers continued their success in other galas outside of school time. NASA continues to be popular. At the beginning of term in the 'A' gala our age 8 - 9 girls were placed 1<sup>st</sup>, the 10 -13 year olds girls were 3<sup>rd</sup> and the boys 10 - 13 year olds were placed 5<sup>th</sup>. Megan Griffiths won the 8 - 9 year old Victrix Ludorum. Our swimmers in that gala were Batian Thorpe, Megan Griffiths, Oliver Muhoho, Coral Hays, Kira Evans, Callum Hays and Richard Vecchio.

In the 'AAA' gala our swimmers continued their success. Batian Thorpe, Oliver Muhoho, Kira Evans, Coral Hays, Imara-Bella Thorpe and Jaimee Harris swam well to come 5<sup>th</sup> overall for the girls and 12<sup>th</sup> overall for the boys. Individually Imara-Bella Thorpe won the Victrix Ludorum for the 9 and under girls, Batian Thorpe was 3<sup>rd</sup>, Kira Evans and Coral Hays 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively and Jaimee Harris was 10<sup>th</sup> in their age groups.

Before term had even started Batian Thorpe had been selected to swim for the Kenyan national team. We were all very proud when he showed us his medals – gold for the 50m Fly and a bronze for the 50m freestyle.

#### **KENYA SWIMMING FEDERATION GALA**

In the K.S.F. gala our swimmers, Batian Thorpe, Oliver Muhoho, Kira Evans and Coral Hays continued to do well and out of 24 teams our girls were 11<sup>th</sup> and our boys were 8<sup>th</sup>. Individually Kira Evans was 6<sup>th</sup> and Coral Hays was 8<sup>th</sup>. Oliver Muhoho was 7<sup>th</sup> and Batian Thorpe romped home with the Victor Ludorum.

Well done, not only to our top swimmers of whom we are very proud but also to all of the children who work hard in lessons and who train hard in squads.

Colours are awarded to: Gordon Everard, Christopher Barnett, Anastasia Ogden, Jaimee Harris, Megan McLean, Esenya Mathews, Nicola Francombe, Batian Thorpe, Sean Grant, Oliver Muhoho, Harry Griffiths, Kira Evans, Talya Herd, Emily Stone-Wigg and Coral Hays.

**S.L. & T.W.**