

DECEMBER 2024



KOPANO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



FROM THE HEADMASTER'S DESK:

As we draw to the close of another year at Kopano School, I find myself reflecting on our journey with pride and gratitude. This year has been defined by growth, collaboration, and perseverance, and none of it would have been possible without the collective effort of our staff, students, and parents.

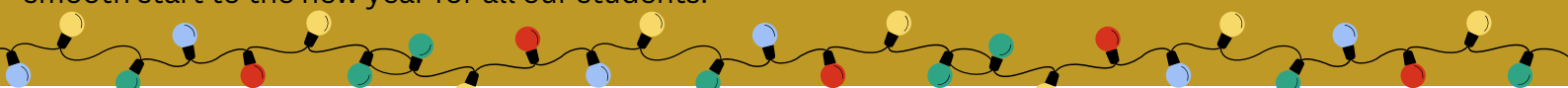
Even though 2024 has been a challenging year for Kopano School, we have had plenty to be excited about. One of the highlights has been the completion of our high school intake, with our Form 3 students advancing to Form 4 in 2025. This marks a significant step in our journey as we now offer a full high school program. We look forward to welcoming an increasing number of students in the coming years and continuing to strengthen our reputation as a centre for academic and personal excellence.

This year also reinforced our commitment to academic rigour through the Cambridge Curriculum. This internationally recognised program equips our students with critical thinking skills, global perspectives, and a strong foundation for lifelong learning, ensuring they are well-prepared for the challenges of the modern world. With exams a thing of the past, I extend my appreciation to our students for their diligence and determination. Their academic and personal growth throughout the year has been pleasing to see.

We recently concluded our annual awards ceremonies, where we celebrated the hard work and dedication of our students. These ceremonies recognized outstanding academic achievements and personal growth throughout the year. Congratulations to all the recipients on their well-deserved accolades! To the rest of our students, let these awards inspire you to aim high and strive for excellence in the coming year.

While we celebrate our successes, this year has not been without its challenges. One significant area of concern has been the timely payment of school fees. These fees are crucial to the smooth running of the school, as they fund everything from teacher salaries to facilities and resources. I urge parents to prioritize timely payments next year to ensure the school can continue providing the high-quality education and services we strive for.

Please note that scholars with outstanding fees from 2024 will not be permitted to start the 2025 academic year. In the event of late payments, proof of payment will be required before the student is allowed to continue with their studies. Additionally, any late payments going forward will be forwarded to the school attorney for collection. We appeal to all parents to work with us to avoid these measures and ensure a smooth start to the new year for all our students.



On Saturday, 23rd November, Morula hosted a Zonal B-League Gala at the Kopano pool, with three schools—Kopano, Morula, and Swaneng—participating in the event. The event was very successful, and our swimmers did the school proud. We congratulate all the swimmers on their remarkable performance and extend our heartfelt thanks to the staff who assisted as officials at the gala. Our swimmers ensured that we won the gala and are now in a position to be promoted to the A League in 2025.

Additionally, we have noticed limited parental involvement in PTA activities. These platforms provide an opportunity to work together as a community to enhance the school experience for our children. I encourage all parents to take an active role in these activities in the new year so that we can collectively address challenges and celebrate successes as a united community.

The coming year brings exciting developments for Kopano School. A varied sports program will be introduced, with several sports becoming compulsory for all students. This initiative reflects our belief in holistic education, where physical fitness complements academic learning. Participation in sports benefits children in countless ways, from improving their health and well-being to fostering teamwork, discipline, and resilience. We look forward to seeing our students thrive in this new program.

Another key development is the decision not to conduct formal examinations for Grade 1 and 2 students starting next year. Instead, assessments will focus on ongoing learning and individual progress. This shift aligns with our philosophy that the early years of schooling should prioritize building foundational skills, fostering a love for learning, and reducing unnecessary stress on young learners.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the PTA for their tremendous efforts in raising much-needed funds for the school this year. The recent Cultural/Traditional Food Day was a celebration of diversity and a big success, showcasing our community's heritage. Similarly, the Christmas Carnival this past weekend was a joyous occasion that brought students, parents, staff and the broader community together to end the year on a high note.

My gratitude goes to the parents who supported these events—your participation makes a significant difference. However, we truly need more parents to step forward and lend their time, expertise, and hands-on support to the PTA. Organizing and running these events is a collective effort, and greater involvement will help us continue to provide exceptional experiences and resources for our children. Let us strive to strengthen this partnership in the coming year.

As the year ends, I encourage families to take time to relax, recharge, and enjoy quality moments together. Botswana offers a wealth of opportunities for meaningful family engagement, from exploring nature reserves to visiting cultural landmarks or simply sharing stories and games at home. Encouraging children to read, engage in creative projects, or help with holiday preparations can also make the break both enriching and enjoyable.

In closing, I wish every member of the Kopano School community a joyful festive season filled with peace, laughter, and cherished memories. Thank you for your support and commitment this year. I look forward to welcoming you all back in 2025 as we embark on another chapter of learning and growth together.

Warm regards
SM Phillips



KNOW YOUR TEACHER Q & A

Mr. Machola

Inspiration to Teach: Passion for education and children.

Experience: 17 years in education; drawn to Kopano School for growth opportunities.

Favourite Subject: Mathematics, due to its practical applications.

Enjoyment in Teaching: Satisfaction from making a difference.

Memorable Success: Pride in former students holding esteemed positions.

Hobbies: Playing and watching soccer.

Dream Travel Destination: Europe, for soccer & tourism.

Fun Fact: Bald with grey hair; keeps it short.

Favourite Teacher: Mr. John Kgaje, for his patience that fostered a love for Math and chess.

Alternate Career: Anything related to education.



Mr. Machola

Ms. Rantsebele

Inspiration to Teach: Driven by a passion for nurturing students and contributing to their success.

Experience: 26 years in education; left a previous position due to the lack of support for needy students.

Favourite Subject: Enjoys teaching English, particularly literature.

Joy in Teaching: Finds fulfilment in working with students and enhancing her character study knowledge.

Memorable Moment: Students expressed confidence in their skills during her transfer, demonstrating her effective teaching.

Hobbies: Enjoys watching movies and listening to gospel music.

Travel Aspirations: Would like to visit Europe for its developments.

Fun Fact: Enjoys dancing and singing, despite lacking talent.

Favourite Teacher: Mr. Senabye, a knowledgeable and passionate history teacher.

Alternate Career: Would pursue a role in education, focusing on guidance and counseling for children.



Ms. Rantsebele



Short message for Grade 7's as they leave Primary School



As you prepare to leave primary school, take a moment to appreciate how far you've come. You've grown in knowledge, confidence, and character, and each of you has something special to offer the world. The path ahead will bring both challenges and opportunities, but remember: every challenge is a chance to learn, and every opportunity is a step closer to your dreams.

AMBITIOUS

Here at Kopano, you have learned many lessons—not just in academics but in the values that will guide you through life. Values like respect, responsibility, perseverance, honesty, humility, teamwork, kindness, and courage. These are the tools that will help you navigate the world, build meaningful relationships, and overcome obstacles.

EXTRAORDINARY

As you step into high school, you may encounter moments of doubt or fear. But I encourage you to embrace Nelson Mandela's words: "It always seems impossible until it's done." When faced with challenges, remember that your determination and faith can help you achieve anything you set your mind to.

EMPOWERING

Remember, too, that you are never alone. You have your family, your friends, and your teachers cheering you on. Most importantly, you have God walking beside you, guiding your steps and holding you up when the journey feels tough.

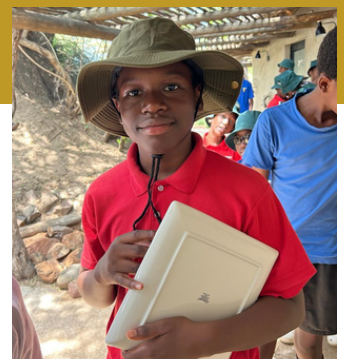
Be proud of all you've accomplished, but don't stop here. Keep dreaming big, working hard, and being kind to those around you. The world is waiting for your light to shine brightly. You have so much potential, and we are confident you will make a positive difference wherever you go.

Congratulations, Grade 7s. To those of you that will be leaving this school as well as those returning to join our high school, you are all stepping into a new adventure. Know that you carry our love, our pride, and our best wishes with you. The future is yours to shape—go out and make it extraordinary.

"A go nne le pula e ntsi mo tseleng ya gago."
May there be plenty of rain on your path.

Anything
is
Possible

Mr Phillips



Best
Wishes



OTHER IMPORTANT INFO

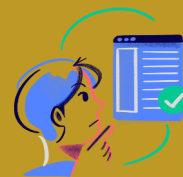


Admin Office Holiday Hours

Please be informed that the school's administrative office will remain open until Wednesday, 13 December 2024, closing at 12:00 midday. The office will then reopen on Tuesday, 7 January 2025.

Should you need to make school fee payments, enquire about enrolments, or attend to any other administrative matters, kindly ensure that you do so within these dates.

We thank you for your cooperation and wish you a restful holiday season.



Some reminders for next year

School re-opens on Wednesday, 15 January. Assembly @ 07:15

- Please ensure that the correct summer uniform is worn to school. (Khaki shorts and shirts that are of the correct colour and quality – purchase these at Back 2 School and Seema.)
- Stationery is important – please purchase as per the list enclosed in the report and on the class groups.
- Reports will be sent home on Wednesday, 4 December.
- The various grades will be having their class parties on Wednesday, 4 December.



SCHOOL FEES PAYMENT REMINDER

Dear Parents, as the term draws to a close, let us ensure that all outstanding fees are settled promptly.

Payment Options Available :

Monthly: Fees are paid over 11 months. Monthly fees are payable in advance or before the 1st of each other month.

Termly: Fees are either paid in full for the whole term or three equal instalments of the total invoiced amount

Please note that if fees are not paid according to the above, end of term reports and transfer cards will be withheld.

For any inquiries or queries please contact the school bursar.

Send POP to:

Email - accounts@kopanoschool.ac.bw

WhatsApp - 75745734





Important Dates

05 December -

Reports out

06 December -

School Closes at 10:00

15 January 2025 -

School Opens

