



Secondary School

# NEWSLETTER

September – October 2023

Dear Parents/guardians,

Welcome to the academic year 2023-24!

I would like to introduce myself; Mr Dale Sanford, the new secondary school Headteacher. I have an honours degree in chemistry (B.Sc. (hons)) from the University of Bristol in the UK and a post-graduate certificate in education (P.G.C.E.) from Westminster College, Oxford.

I have over 25 years experience in international schools in Africa (Kenya, Uganda, Mozambique & Zambia) with more than 10 years in senior leadership, including as founding principal of a secondary school in Tanzania and then secondary principal in Malawi. Working in different types of schools has given me a deeper appreciation of the value of a holistic approach and a broader perspective of developments in international education.

Myself and my Ugandan wife and children have recently returned to Uganda to make a permanent home in “The Pearl of Africa”. I am very excited at the prospect of being part of the BSK community for the next phase of the school’s development and I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming weeks.

**1. Academics** Congratulations to all our students on some excellent exam results. Thanks also to teachers for all their hard work and to parents for support at home! The IGCSE results were outstanding and our pass rate at A-level (including BTEC) was 90% with over a quarter of all grades A\* (or equivalent).

**2. After-school programme** Please note that school finishes at 2.30pm every day this first week back. However, from next week school will finish at 3.30pm Mondays (assembly) and Wednesdays (clubs) and at 2.30pm Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays.

**3. Staff** We welcome two new teachers onto the team, Ms Jael Rosette (French) and Mr Kenan Mulindwa (Design & Technology, Engineering & Maths). All teachers have recently completed a 4-day programme of professional development training from EdExcel and are looking forward to practically implementing what they’ve learnt in the classroom.

**4. Campus** One welcome development is the construction of a covered walkway, so it should be possible to walk to (nearly) any classroom on the campus without getting wet! The basketball court now has a shade too. There is an extension to the engineering block and the science prep room has also been upgraded.



**5. Events** The big event this term is the annual BSK community run on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Many more exciting events are being planned, including trips, sports fixtures etc and details will be communicated as soon as dates are confirmed.

**6. Dates to note**

Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> August	First day of term
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	UN World Literacy Day
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	UN World Dysgraphia Day
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	UN World Teachers Day
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Public holiday
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	UN World Mental Health Day
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent-teacher conferences (PTCs)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Half-term holiday
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	UN World Science Day
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Community Run
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term

Wishing you all a great start to the new school year!

Mr D. Sanford, Headteacher