

PIECE *of* HEAVEN

The magazine for the wider HOPAC community

The mission of Haven of Peace Academy is to provide an excellent, Christ-centered, international education that meets western academic standards and equips students to live out a Biblical worldview in all areas of life to the glory of God.



HOPAC students and teachers dressed up for "Color Explosion Day" during Pamoja Week 2014

20 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT HOPAC's Middle & Senior Principals

Through the search process for a Secondary School Principal, HOPAC decided to separate the secondary school responsibilities between two principal positions - one over the middle school (grades 6-8) and another over the senior school (grades 9-12). Mr Adrian Palmer, the Senior School Principal, is new to HOPAC this year. Mrs Carley Mwenda, formerly Carley Harrison and a familiar face at HOPAC, is new to the Middle School Principal position. As means of introducing them, here are twenty things you might not know: *See if you can match the fact to the principal. Answers on page 7.*

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1. Proficient juggler | 8. Taught grades K-12 before becoming Principal | 15. Speaks fluent pig latin |
| 2. Played the trumpet in school | 9. Failed unicyclist | 16. Passionate about training young leaders |
| 3. Walked on the Great Wall of China | 10. Has worn glasses since age 8 and contacts since age 11 | 17. Hiked the Grand Canyon rim-to-rim |
| 4. Favorite holiday destinations: Lake Baringo Island Camp, Kenya, and Grindelwald, Switzerland | 11. Favorite authors: CS Lewis, Madeleine L'Engle, and Orson Scott Card | 18. Irritated by lateness and American spellings of British words |
| 5. Enjoys complicated logic puzzles and 1000+ piece jigsaw puzzles | 12. Climbed Mount Kenya twice | 19. Worked in finance and insurance as an actuary for ten years before becoming a teacher, investigating the probabilities of death, how likely women are to have car accidents compared to men, etc |
| 6. Favourite authors: John Ortberg, Bill Hybels, and James Patterson | 13. Favorite food: Roast lamb with all the trimmings | 20. Secretly wants to be an astronaut |
| 7. Least favorite foods: peas and cilantro | 14. Taught at St. Andrew's, Turi in Kenya before coming to HOPAC | |

One of the benefits of studying and working at HOPAC is the diverse and fantastic people that surround you. The best part is, each and every one of them love Jesus. It doesn't get much better than that! Next time you bump into someone between classes, take a second to ask them to tell you something new about themselves—my guess is, you'll find out you're walking with some pretty cool people!

News in Brief

Love & Service

Mboka Mwasongwe shares the experiences of grade 2 students in what has become an annual service project.

One of HOPAC's Core Values is: *We exercise responsible biblical leadership, service and stewardship of all God has given us, and seek to instill a proper respect for these practices in the hearts of our students.*

For Grade 2, it all began with enjoyable science lessons on healthy eating. Now how can learning about healthy eating affect the community round us? One student sparked up our service-learning project with a thought provoking statement, 'But not everyone can live a healthy lifestyle!' So what can one class of 7 and 8 year olds do? With help from parents, Grade 2 raised



money, planned a menu, went to Nakumatt to shop and had a hand at making part of a delicious meal. They also created healthy eating booklets in English and Kiswahili. Green Pastures Orphanage was their target. Arriving at the orphanage, HOPAC students spread out to greet the children and play. Parents rallied behind them, setting up tables of food while hugging, carrying and loving children they had come to serve. What a wonderful day

it was, a testimony of love and service. Grade 2 did not stop there! They took all they had learned and shared it with the whole of primary during their class assembly, hoping that even more students will pick up the school vision, to serve the community around us.

"Whatever you did for the least of my brothers you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

Pamoja Week & International Day 2014

Abigail Snyder, English Literature teacher write about "the best day of the year"

Ask anyone at HOPAC what the best day of the year is, and inevitably they will tell you it is International Day. The excitement builds all week as students celebrate Pamoja Week. "Pamoja" means "together" in Swahili and Pamoja Week is a time to build school unity and togetherness. Student council decides on themes for each day, students (and teachers) dress up, and games and costume competitions occur during break. Then, on Friday, it is International Day. Students, parents, and teachers come together to celebrate the diversity of cultures represented at HOPAC by dressing in native costume, parading around the assembly hall to one's national anthem, and performing traditional songs and dances.

Because pictures speak a thousand words, here's a glimpse of Pamoja Week and International Day at HOPAC this year:



Monday: Career Day



Tuesday: Comic Day



Wednesday: Ancient Day



Thursday: Color Explosion Day



Friday: International Day



Mr Palmer Mrs Mwenda

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New Faces @ HOPAC

HOPAC welcomed four new staff members to the team this year including Mr Adrian Palmer, Senior School Principal (see cover article). In keeping with our theme, we asked them where they were **20** years ago...



Jowelle Obango
*Swim Coordinator/
Teacher/Coach*



Mboka
Mwasongwe
Grade 2 teacher

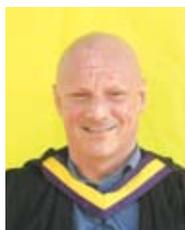


Ellen Ellison
*Middle/Senior
Math Teacher*

20 years ago, Jowelle was 12 years old and in school in Nairobi, Kenya. Jowelle brings a solid amount of swim teaching/coaching experience to the Swim Coordinator position, having taught in both Dubai and Kenya. Jowelle really enjoys the family atmosphere of HOPAC and looks forward to building enthusiasm for swimming at HOPAC and developing strong swim teams at both primary and secondary levels.

20 years ago, Mboka was in secondary school and just starting the IB program at the International School of Moshi. Mboka brings a wealth of experience with her, having taught for 12 years at such schools as Braeburn, DIA, Capstone, Hosanna, and St. Dorcas Leadership Seminary. Mboka is loving the freedom she has to be a Christian at HOPAC. She is amazed by how friendly, caring and appreciative HOPAC students and parents are and how everyone cares for each other. Mboka's goals for this year are to learn as much as she can and to make lots of friends.

20 years ago, Ellen, a missionary kid who grew up in Japan, was on furlough and in primary school in the US. Not only were Ellen's parents missionaries, her grandparents were as well, so she is carrying on the family tradition. Prior to coming to HOPAC, Ellen was coaching volleyball and substitute teaching (math, physics and chemistry) in both Cameroon and Japan. Some might find it odd but what Ellen is enjoying the most right now is the heat of Dar es Salaam!



20 years ago, Adrian (shown here dressed for Career Day) was working as a pricing actuary at Aviva in Norwich, England.

Upcoming Dates



December		April	
12	Last day of Term 1	8	First day of Term 3
January		13-17	TerraNova testing for grades 5-8
5	First day of Term 2	May	
12	Revolution Day <i>no school for all</i>	1	Workers Day <i>no school for all</i>
29	HOPAC Board meeting	1-2	HOPAC Board meeting/retreat
February		4	CIE start <i>tentative</i>
13	Teacher InService Day <i>no school for students</i>	22	Mid-term Break <i>no school for all</i>
16-17	Mid-term Break <i>no school for all</i>	June	
March		4	HOPAC Board meeting
19	HOPAC Board meeting	12-16	Middle School Exams
23-27	Service Emphasis Week	17	Graduation Dinner
27	Last day of Term 2/Easter Celebration	18	Last day for students/Graduation/Whole school assembly
		18	Alumni Night
		19	Last day for teachers

from the
Director's
Desk

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

Way to go, HOPAC! Way to go, God!

To celebrate our 20 years as Haven of Peace Academy, we have been doing a lot of little things throughout the year: we chose a theme that helps commemorate the anniversary; we added a few fun historical elements to Pamoja Week; we've used the "20" theme in several different places (including this magazine); and we placed a time capsule in the ground as a fun whole-school event on International Day.

We are ever mindful that we wouldn't be where we are today if it hadn't been for God's amazing goodness and faithfulness to all of us over the years. Looking back at our story, then considering God's incredible story of redemption, and looking ahead to what God might do next, we are completely humbled and amazed by the awesome God we serve.

Below is the letter that we included with the time capsule buried on International Day. As it says, our hope is that, in 20 years' time, HOPAC continues to be "firmly rooted in the Gospel and continues to equip students to live out a biblical worldview...To God alone be all the glory!"

Ben Snyder, Director



Above: The time capsule which was buried on International Day, 7 November 2014. The letter to the right was included along with items from each grade. The time capsule was sealed and buried in the center of the "roundabout" sidewalk area.



7 November 2014

Dear HOPAC 2034,

While it is certainly difficult for us to imagine what life may be like at HOPAC in 20 years' time, we have enjoyed looking back at the last 20 years in the life of our school. The story of HOPAC is one that demonstrates God's faithfulness and provision over and over, and we are continually blessed by the opportunity to serve at a wonderful school with a wonderful community.

To commemorate our 20th anniversary, as part of our International Day festivities, we are burying this time capsule. We have asked each class to come up with an item or two that represents 2014 and have come up with the following items that we have placed in this bucket. We hope the bucket survives!

- A paper people chain that measures out the circumference of the baobab tree (hope it's still there!), brought to you by our Kindergarten students
- A pair of 3D glasses and a sheet with Grade 1's favorite recent 3D movies
- A description of current transportation and Grade 2's predictions of what transportation will be like in 2034
- A day in the life of a Grade 3 student along with what they predict life will be like in the future
- A baseball cap with today's newspaper, brought to you by Grade 4
- A HOPAC uniform shirt, signed by all of our Grade 5 students
- A Nokia mobile phone, from Grade 6
- A rainbow weave / rubber band bracelet, along with a photo of our Grade 7 class
- A class photo of our Grade 8 class in uniforms, a photo of "ancient civilizations" day in Pamoja Week, as well as a t-shirt and class schedule
- A map of the world showing where all of our Grade 9 students are from
- A "selfie" photo of our Grade 10 class inside of a Coca Cola bottle
- A Service Emphasis Week t-shirt, along with a photo of our Grade 11 class
- A playlist of favorite songs from our Grade 12 students, along with a recently broken iPhone
- A yearbook from 2013/14
- A book from our library with a note from our librarian
- Today's CNN.com home news page and Africa news page, new words added to the dictionary in 2014, a list of the top 10 websites, an infographic about social media sites, and an infographic on carbon footprints, and some Tanzanian shillings (equivalent to \$7, including a brand new 500/= coin)
- A USB "flash" drive with the top 3 youtube.com videos of all time (as of November 2014), the top 5 Christian songs from this week, and some photos of campus from International Day 2014
- A collection of photos of some of our staff from Pamoja Week 2014 (all in our silly clothes!)

We are sure that life will have changed significantly since the time we bury this time capsule, but we hope that one thing never changes – that HOPAC is firmly rooted in the Gospel and continues to equip students to live out a biblical worldview. Our hope is that our school will be making a profound difference in the lives of our students and in our surrounding area and community.

Our theme for this year has been "Our Story" and we have enjoyed looking through the stories of the Bible and hearing stories of God's faithfulness to HOPAC. As we bury this time capsule, we're adding another page to our story, and we hope that the story continues long past our times at this school.

To God alone be all the glory!

Sincerely, on behalf of the entire HOPAC community,

Ben Snyder

Ben Snyder
Director

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learning to live fully

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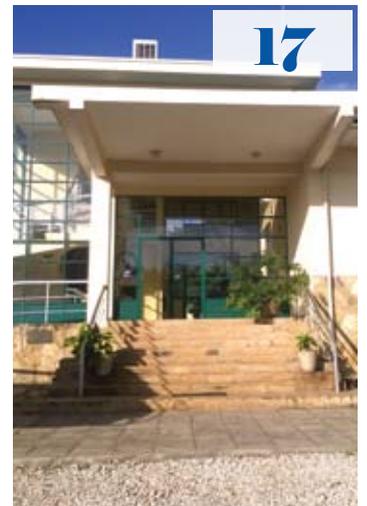


20

PHOTOS
from
around
HOPAC



*DO YOU KNOW WHERE
THESE WERE TAKEN?*



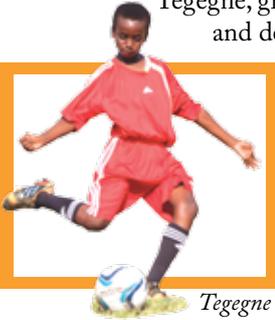
Answers on page 7.

20

Highlights from Term 1 Sports

More than half of our team members got to participate in their first ever swim gala. *Primary Swimming*

During a game our goalie dove to block a shot which pulled him out of the box. The other team moved the ball around to the other side but just before they shot, Tegegne, grade 6, moved in front of the goal and deflected the shot with his head to save the goal! *U13 Boys Football*



Tegegne Mufuruki

Winning the U18 Football Tournament - hosted by HOPAC. *U18 Girls Football*

Traveling to and playing against Ebonite Teachers College on their pitch. *U18 Girls Football*

Every team member participated in a gala and beat their personal best times. *Primary Swimming*

Traveling to play against Ebonite Teachers College. Even though we lost 1-2, it was a great experience against some older competition, with a host of fans cheering against us, playing on a very different field surface. *U18 Boys Football*

Lizzie Edwards, goalie, stopped all 4 penalty shots in the U13 girls 1st game against IST, which is pretty miraculous! It gave the team the win! *U13 Girls Football*

When they lost for the first time and still wanted to perform their Buddy Chant: *Tuh, tuh, tuh together we are strong; Ho ho ho HOPAC united!* They didn't blame each other or the other team. They just wanted a big buddy cuddle and to reaffirm their team spirit. *U11 Girls Football*

Playing against IST on International night. *U18 Girls Football*

Finishing with a 7-3-1 record and a total goal differential of +2. *U18 Boys Football*

1

One Friday when they played Laureate, Laureate had sent a team of comparable-sized, same-aged girls and they played a good honest game of football, with no name calling or shoving. HOPAC girls really appreciated them and complimented their play. *U11 Girls Football*

2

3

4

We had 21 participants from Grades 4 and 5 so we split into two teams! *U11 Boys Football*

5

6

Team A won many matches, and had an exciting last minute goal to draw with a tough SalaSala team. *U11 Boys Football*

7

8

Team B found many of their matches resulting in draws. They played an extremely difficult Ahmes team to a 1-1 draw with a tremendous shot on goal. *U11 Boys Football*

9

10

The first match! They scored a goal and were running around in amazement! *U11 Girls Football*

11

12

Our top goal scorer was co-captain John Njau with 7. *U18 Boys Football*

13

14

Evelyn Edwards, who is actually a U11 player, played for the U13 team and rocked against girls bigger and stronger than her. She might be small but she is mighty! *U13 Girls Football*

15

16

The team voted our goalkeeper and co-captain Benja Riegert as our most valuable player this season. *U18 Boys Football*

17

18

We welcomed our new pool coordinator and swim coach, Jowelle Obango. *Primary Swimming*

19

20

Deborah Royer, in her first game playing as forward/striker, scored a hat trick (3 goals in one game)! *U15 Girls Football*



Evelyn Edwards

1 **Helen Stacey**, *former English Literature teacher*, is getting married on 4 April 2015.

2 **Jamila Shenk**, *former student*, is engaged to be married to Josh Highfield.

3 **Jen Moser**, *former primary teacher*, is engaged to be married to Tim Schmidt.

4 **Kyungho Rhee**, *Class of 2009*, was married on 6 September 2014 to Shelby Swart.

13 **Bryan Smith**, *former middle school teacher*, and his wife, Rachel, are now the proud parents of Noah, born 26 September 2014.

14 **Dorothy Mrema**, *Class of 2009*, is back in Dar es Salaam and working for Karama, a non-profit organization that partners with local African businesses and assists them in financing, designing and marketing their products in the US.

20 HOPAC Family News Stories

5 **Becky Bogan**, *former student teacher*, was married on 3 August to Andrew Barney.

6 **Hannah Koehler**, *Class of 2010*, is getting married on 15 March 2015.

7 **Kate (Connell) Schlatt**, *former chemistry teacher*, is expecting her second child on 5 April 2015.

8 **Steve and Jennifer Wickham**, *current G5 and special needs teachers*, are expecting their third child in March.

9 **Zoe Klioumis**, *former G1 teacher*, had her first child, Sophie Ava, on 30 July 2014.

10 **Grace Nakaka**, *current drama teacher*, gave birth to son, Tumkwise (TK) on 17 July 2014.

11 **Victor Opidi**, *current IT Manager*, welcomed his second child, Trivia, into his family on 10 August 2014.

12 **Heather (House) Lima**, *former middle school teacher* and her husband, Quincy, are now the proud parents of Caedmon, born 23 September 2014.

15 **Jeff Stamp**, *former history teacher*, and family, as of October 2014, are living and serving in Kyrgyzstan.

16 **Amy Baum**, *former Grade 5 teacher*, is now assistant director at a Christian school in Tuscon, Arizona.

17 **Isaac Halstrom**, *former student*, is now teaching grade 3 at Renton Schools in Washington State in the US.

18 **Annika Halverson**, *former student*, recently competed in the US NCAA Women's Cross Country National Championship representing Bethel University.

19 **Laura Smits**, *Class of 2011*, is back in Dar es Salaam, doing a physiotherapy internship at CCBRT.

20 **Bernice Fernandes**, *Class of 2009*, is now working on her Masters degree at Pepperdine University.

Answers to 20 things you might not know about HOPAC's Middle & Senior Principals: 1-Adrian Palmer (AP) 2-Carley Mwenda (CM) 3-CM 4-AP 5-CM 6-AP 7-CM 8-CM 9-AP 10-CM 11-CM 12-AP 13-AP 14-AP 15-CM 16-AP 17-CM 18-AP 19-AP 20-CM

Answers to 20 Photos from around HOPAC: 1-lockers between rooms 12 & 13, downstairs middle/senior school building; 2-stairs near the art room; 3-sidewalk leading to the music/drama room (old Admin building); 4-newly constructed banda in the courtyard of the science building; 5-picnic table and new sidewalk leading from the art room to primary classrooms; 6-stairs and sidewalk leading from the science building to room 15, downstairs middle/senior school building; 7-football pitch; 8-courtyard area between kindergarten and the covered court, near the baobab tree; 9-ramp from lower middle/senior school building to the science building and then up to the second level of classrooms; 10-sidewalk leading past the music/drama room to the library; 11-side view of the Admin building; 12-sidewalk view from the parking lot looking towards the kindergarten building, playground on the left; 13-sidewalk view from the parking lot looking towards primary classrooms, playground on the right; 14-the playground; 15-the pool gate to the side of the snack bar; 16-the swimming pool; 17-front view of the Admin building; 18-back view of the Admin building; 19-the covered court/basketball court, decorated for International Day; 20-lower primary classrooms, looking down from grade 4

20 Years. Stories.

For our school theme this year, we have been looking at “Our Story”, working our way through God’s redemption story in the Bible, while also pointing to God’s faithfulness in our 20 years as a school. To highlight some of the amazing things God has done, we have chosen 20 specific stories in HOPAC’s history that have shaped “our story” today. Enjoy a quick historical tour through HOPAC!

1 Before HOPAC started, five missionary families (from five different missions) from Canada, the US and the UK met regularly to pray. One crucial need that came up week after week concerned the educational needs of their children. There were few options available at the time. As they continued to pray about this important need, in 1992-93, the Lord gave them a common vision to see a Christian school established in Dar.

8 HOPAC’s first participatory strategic plan, “Vision 2010”, was developed in 2006 with input from board, staff and parents. The final draft contained five major focus areas: campus development, governance, curriculum/program, student development and staff recruitment and retention.

12 H O P A C organized and held its first HOPAC 5K/1K Fun Run in 2008 to promote running and fitness. This has become an annual event. It was originally held in November of each year but was later moved to Term 3 to take advantage of cooler weather.

16 HOPAC retired its wooden playground in 2011 and installed a new playground in partnership with Kids Around the World, a non-profit organization that refurbishes and installs playgrounds around the world as part of their children’s ministry.

2 In September, 1994, Haven of Peace Academy opened its doors in a renovated house on a rented plot in Oyster Bay and welcomed its first 47 students. Three missionary teachers from Canada, the US and Australia and a Head Teacher from the UK taught Kindergarten through Grade Six.

9 After years of fundraising by a faithful group of parent swim supporters, HOPAC completed and opened its own beautiful 25 meter swimming pool in 2007. Prior to this, students were bused to nearby hotels for swim lessons.

13 David Champion, HOPAC’s first administrator from 1994-2002, and wife, Lorraine (former primary teacher) made a return visit to HOPAC in 2009. Some of the same students were still there to welcome them back!

17 Lights were added to the football pitch in 2011, to light up evening Community Nights. Additional lights were added to the basketball court the following year. Community nights have become a termly highlight.

3 Growing quickly, but with little room to grow, HOPAC expanded beyond primary school and added secondary grades in 1997.

5 HOPAC quickly outgrew its location in Oyster Bay. In 2001, the new campus in Kunduchi was inaugurated and over 200 students began school at the new location.

7 Service Learning began at the secondary level at HOPAC in 2005, under the direction of Kyle McFarlane, with ongoing service projects and an annual Service Emphasis Week (SEW). This focus on service has grown over the years and today students from Kindergarten through G12 serve in the community throughout the year.



10 HOPAC’s first graduating class and graduation ceremony was in 2008. Graduates were Vanessa Anyoti, Sharif Attoui, Sameer Dharsee, Markus Drotleff, Dawn Graham, Sarah Jafferji and Steven Kim.

14 Once again, several HOPAC secondary students achieved the highest marks in Tanzania for several Cambridge International Examination subjects in the June 2009 exam series: Dorothy Mrema-AS History, Lotta Nygren-A2 Business Studies, Laura Smits-IGCSE Geography and English Literature and Stephen Armstrong-A2 Geography.

15 HOPAC’s snack bar, initially set up as a once-a-week table outside the covered court, was moved to a permanent building in 2010 that serves breaktime snacks every day.

18 HOPAC received accreditation in 2012 by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) and Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, providing further validation to our programs and setting us up for long-term, internationally-recognized academic success.

4 In 1999, HOPAC celebrated its first International Day, an event that has become an annual favorite for students, staff and parents alike.

6 HOPAC’s annual school theme program began in 2005 with the theme “Sola Gratia”. The school theme provides an overarching focus for assemblies, events and student development throughout the year.

11 Three HOPAC students received “Brilliance in Tanzania” awards from Cambridge International Examinations for receiving the highest scores in Tanzania during June 2008 exams in the following subjects: Dorothy Mrema-AS Geography, Lotta Nygren-AS Biology and AS Business Studies, Krizstina Chogo-IGCSE History and IGCSE English Literature.

19 In 2013, HOPAC graduates Hemangi Modi and Krishna Vasani were accepted at Cornell University and the University of Penn, respectively, which means HOPAC has had graduates studying at 7 of the 8 US Ivy League schools as well as at other world-renowned schools like Stanford and MIT.

20 As part of 20th anniversary celebrations, HOPAC staff and students filled a 2014 Time Capsule and buried it on campus with the intent that HOPAC’ers in 2034 dig it up and enjoy the contents!