

# Marina Weekly Newsletter



**Our Mission:** Provide a holistic, student-centred education that enables students to reach their full potential and contribute to the progress of The Gambia and the world.

## Dear Parents,

We are delighted to welcome our students back to another week of learning, growing and sharing remarkable achievements and participating in exciting upcoming events at Marina International School. From our students' outstanding performances in sports to the launch of new educational initiatives, our community continues to exemplify the values of **Respect, Achievement, Integrity, Service, and Empathy (R.A.I.S.E.)**. Our H.S. students went to **Kiang** to donate our old furniture, a laudable initiative. This week, we continue with the last week of **Mock and Mid-year Exams**. This week we look forward to the Eid break and next week we would love to welcome you to the **PTA Meeting-JS**.

**Our Vision:** An internationally acclaimed and diverse community of students and staff committed to academic excellence and character development in a safe and caring environment.

[www.mis.edu.gm](http://www.mis.edu.gm)



Visit our social media pages.

# COBIS COMPLIANCE WEEK

Last week, Marina International School participated in COBIS Compliance Week, during which a COBIS representative visited to assess our adherence to the highest international school standards.

Mr. J. Coombes followed a rigorous schedule, conducting thorough tours and meetings to ensure every aspect of our school was reviewed. After an intensive week, we now await the official COBIS report.



## EXAMS

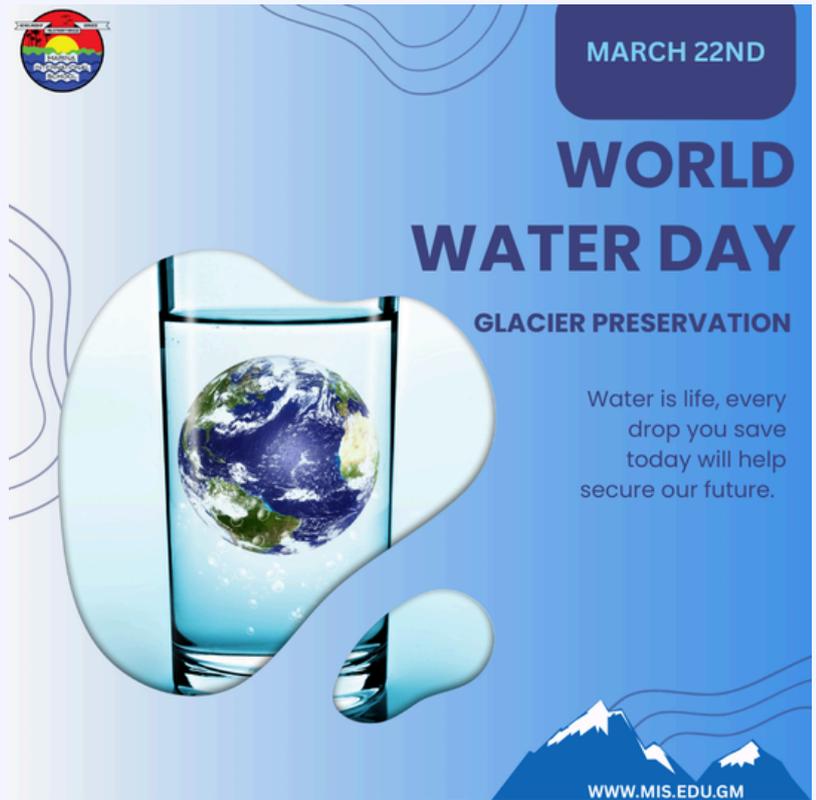
It's the final week of exams at Marina International School! Our students have been working diligently to achieve excellent results, and we continue to wish them success. After exams, classes will resume to ensure the smooth continuation of the curriculum.



# Marina Magic

This year's World Water Day theme, "Glacier Preservation," highlights the alarming rate at which glaciers are melting, as reported by the United Nations. The day serves as a crucial platform to advocate for equitable access to clean water and sanitation, aligning with UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6. At Marina International School, we are committed to ensuring the highest water quality for our students. Three weeks ago, we welcomed a renowned expert in Water and Environmental Sanitation to our campus to assess the purity of the water supplied by NAWEC. Through a comprehensive physio-chemical, chemical, and bacteriological analysis, samples were tested to ensure compliance with global health standards.

On March 11, 2025, Marina received an official certification confirming that our water meets WHO drinking water standards, ensuring it is safe for consumption and domestic use in accordance with public health guidelines.



# MARINA STUDENT LEADERSHIP

My name is Adam Chingling Wang, in Form 6. I am a student and the Head Girl of this esteemed institution; Marina International School. Leading with heart, I've grown from a shy first year student back in 2016, to someone passionate about fostering social control, unity and growth.

I was proudly selected by the pastoral team of the school. I became the Head Girl due to my numerous experiences in leadership. I've held the position of the House Captain for Green House for 3 consecutive years, alongside Student Council Class Representative for the same amount of years. Last year, I was crowned the President an honour and responsibility I did not take lightly. I wanted to amplify student voices and create a safe space where everyone feels heard and respected.

The biggest challenge I face is balancing leadership roles with academics while listening to diverse perspectives without losing focus.



My plan is to show the students that the sky's the limit. Working closely with counselors, student leaders and teachers, I aim to pick efficient resources and expertise for greater impact.

**My message to the students is that you matter. Don't be shy, speak up, support one another as we are the Marina Family and never underestimate your potential.**

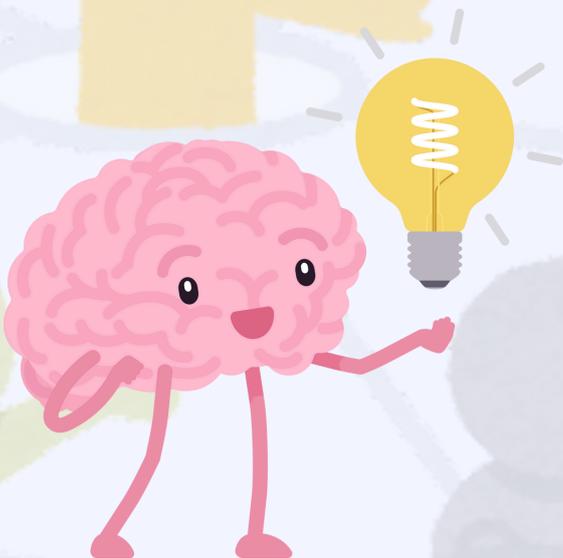
— Adam Chingling Wang, Head Girl, Form 6.

# Upcoming Stories

## MARINA STUDENT LEADERSHIP



Coming soon! In this series, we'll introduce the student leadership team at Marina International School. Get ready to hear their stories—who they are, what inspires them, and the exciting plans they have for our school community!



# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## PHILIP A. BENSOUDA

### PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT

M.Arch Speciality in Hybrid  
Architecture and Urban Design

Mr. Philip A. Bensouda is a distinguished architect with over a decade of expertise in crafting innovative and sustainable designs. His proficiency in organic, hybrid architecture, and urban design affords him a visionary approach to each endeavor.

Mr. Bensouda earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees in architecture from Arizona, with a specialization in Hybrid Architecture, Urban Construction, and Sustainable Design. He further honed his skills in Italy as an Architect with the globally recognized Design and Construction Firm Officine Piccini S.P.A, and mastered his speciality in Hybrid Architecture and Engineering. He holds accreditation and licensure as an architect.

As the Principal Architect at P.A.B Designs & Technology and Kynubuild Constructs Ltd., Mr. Bensouda leads the design team to ensure each project epitomizes the



client's vision while conforming to regulatory and quality standards. He is committed to developing sustainable, organic, and resilient built environments that uplift the living experiences of clients, developers, and communities.

**P.S. Philip used to be in BLUE HOUSE and was an amazing basketball player.**



# IMPORTANT NEWS

## MOCK and MID YEAR EXAMS

### Key Updates & Focus Areas:

- Form 1 & 2 will start their Mid-Year Exams on March 20, 2025.
- Form 3 will finish their Mid-Year Exams on the morning of March 20, 2025.
- P3-6 will continue with lessons as scheduled, ensuring a smooth transition post-exams.



### A Reminder from the Finance and Administration Desk

To prevent any disruptions to your child's learning schedule this week, we kindly remind you to clear any outstanding fee arrears. Should you have any queries or require further assistance, we encourage you to visit the Finance Office at your earliest convenience from Monday, 24th March 2025.

Finally, I thank you for your unwavering support. Education thrives on a tripartite partnership –parents, teachers, and learners – and you, our valued parents, have consistently upheld this essential collaboration!

Warm regards,

Mr. Charles Nguli Head of Junior School & COBIS Accreditation  
Lead

# 2nd Term Calendar

## SCHOOL FEES

**PAYMENTS DUE -Jan  
6th 2025**

## CHECKPOINT FEES

**DEADLINE - FEB 10TH  
2025**

**Eid-Ul Fitr - March 31<sup>st</sup>  
2025**

**PTA Meeting - April 4<sup>th</sup>  
2025 -JS**

**PTA Meeting- April 11<sup>th</sup>  
2025 -HS**

**Science Fair - April 12<sup>th</sup>  
2025 -HS**

**Open Day- Tuesday, April  
15<sup>th</sup> 2025 - JS/HS**

**End of term break - April  
17<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**Classes resume - April  
28<sup>th</sup> 2025**

**PTA MEETING**

Join us and connect with fellow parents and discover ways to support your child's growth! Together, we strive to provide the best for our children.

- ✓ Meet other parents
- ✓ Get your questions answered
- ✓ Discuss important information

Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 2025

4.00 PM - 6.00 PM

Marina School Hall

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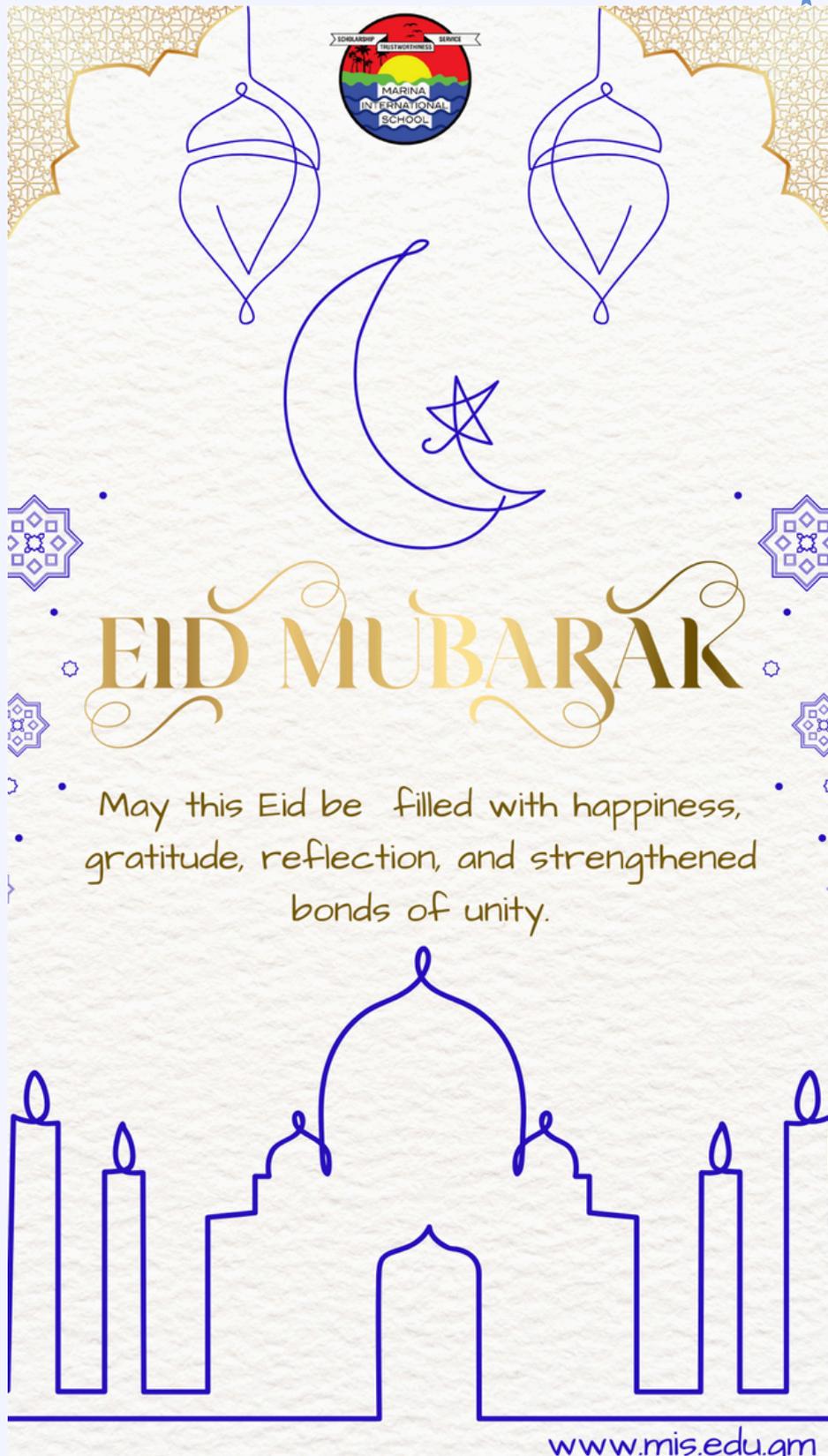
*-Life is a succession of lessons which must be lived to be understood."  
- Ralph Waldo Emerson*



## Important Date or Events

- **PTA Meeting- April 4th 2025-JS**
- **PTA Meeting- April 11th 2025 - HS**
- **Science Fair - April 12th 2025**
- **Tuesday, April 15th - Open Day -JS**

# Eid Mubarak, Marina Family!



*As we celebrate the joyous culmination of Ramadan, we extend our warmest wishes to the entire Marina International School community. May this Eid bring abundant blessings, answered prayers, and a renewed sense of faith. May your hearts be filled with peace, gratitude, and togetherness, and may this special day strengthen the bonds of love and unity among us all.*

*Wishing you a joyous and blessed Eid! ✨🌙*