



The March 11th 2025 Issue

# 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.

**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.

## 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 are in full swing with the **Mock and Mid-year Exams**. We wish all the students success as they take their examinations. Next week, we look forward to the **COBIS Compliance Visit**.

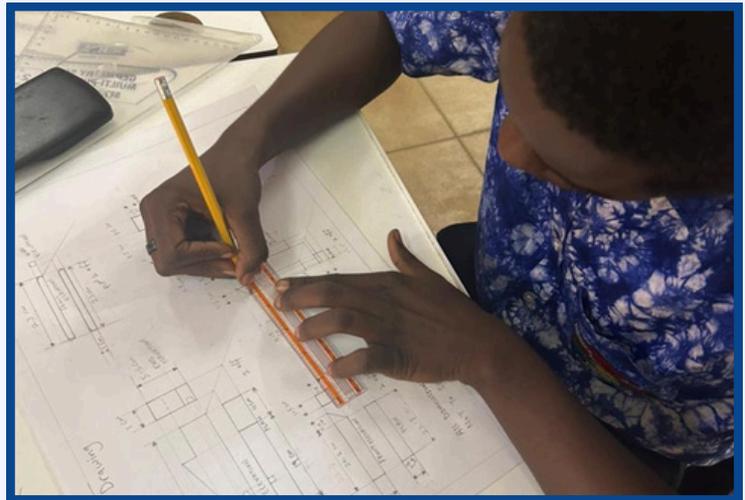
# Exam Mode Activated

"Exams mode" is now in full swing, as students across both campuses are working hard to achieve strong results in their mock and mid-year exams. Examinations are formal assessments designed to evaluate students' understanding and mastery of subjects, providing valuable insights into their academic progress. This period is not only crucial for students but also an opportunity for teachers to reflect on the effectiveness of their teaching methods and make improvements for even better results. We wish all students the best of luck and success during this examination period, and encourage them to soar even higher as they work towards exceptional grades in their final exams.



# Marina Magic - High School

Design and Technology is one of the most exciting and rewarding classes at Marina. It combines creativity and practicality, allowing students to transform conceptual ideas into finished products. Defined as the study of designing and creating products using both practical skills and theoretical knowledge, Design and Technology teaches students essential skills like problem-solving, critical thinking, project management, and technical craftsmanship. Under the expert guidance of Mr. Anthony L. Mendy, students refine their abilities, pushing beyond previous achievements as they prepare for exams.



# Marina Magic - Junior School

## Marina Field Hockey Team

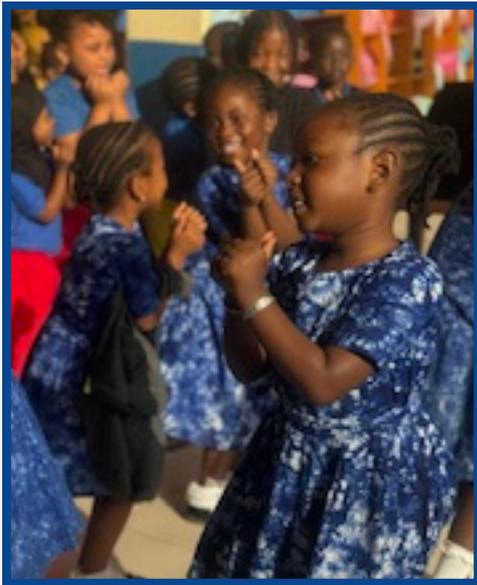


"Excited" doesn't even begin to capture the enthusiasm surrounding the introduction of Marina's first-ever field hockey team! Under the expert guidance of Mr. Eric, the team has been mastering the rules of the game, honing their skills, and practicing tirelessly. Kudos to the Marina Field Hockey Team – we can't wait to see the amazing things you'll achieve!



# Marina Magic- Foundation

Friday assembly at Foundation is truly the highlight of the week. It's a lively event with both teachers and students actively participating, embodying the essence of teaching and learning. With singing, dancing, skits, and a short talk, the vibrant atmosphere makes Fridays at Marina even more enjoyable. This past Friday, Ms. Monica spoke about the importance of reducing sugar intake, reminding students not to bring sweets to school. She also highlighted the significance of maintaining healthy teeth, encouraging everyone to eat nutritious meals to avoid frequent dentist visits.



# Marina Magic - PD Session

## Safeguarding Certification

As Marina strives to achieve COBIS accreditation, Professional Development (PD) sessions have become more rigorous, ensuring that all standards are met across both campuses. This includes everyone from the Board of Governors to administrative staff, teachers, and ancillary staff. The most recent focus has been on Safeguarding, a critical aspect of maintaining a safe environment for students on campus. We are excited for the upcoming COBIS visit next week and are committed to meeting the high standards required.

COBIS, or the Council of British International Schools, is a global network that provides high-quality educational standards and professional development for schools around the world. Obtaining COBIS accreditation is important for Marina as it ensures that the school adheres to internationally recognized standards of education, safeguarding, and leadership. It also allows Marina to be part of a prestigious community of schools committed to delivering excellence in education. At Marina, we are dedicated to realizing both our mission and vision, ensuring that our students are equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to make a positive impact on The Gambia and the world.



**Dr. Forrest-**  
Governor  
Safeguarding Lead  
**Mrs. Joof -** Deputy  
Governor  
Safeguarding Lead  
**Mrs. Kowah -** Deputy  
Safeguarding Lead  
**Mr. Kennedy -**  
Deputy Safeguarding  
Lead - HS  
**Ms. Mutua -** Deputy  
Safeguarding Lead -  
JS

# Marina Alumni Spotlight

Emily Joof is an education specialist who works with international organizations and NGOs. Her work focuses on inclusive education and advancing children's rights, with a particular emphasis on improving access to foundational literacy and numeracy in the Global South. Emily has managed and delivered education programs targeting children, at-risk youth, and marginalized communities for more than 15 years across three continents.

In addition to her work in education, Emily is an author with 14 children's books published to date. Her books have been released in Sweden and the United States, with translation rights in the United Kingdom.

Emily is also the founder of The Mbife Foundation, an NGO dedicated to increasing literacy by establishing libraries and reading programs in The Gambia. She currently works as the Education Specialist for the World Bank Gambia and serves as the chair of the new KMC Municipal Library.

The Mbife Library

The Mbife Children's Community Library stocks a wide range of books that promote inclusive and



diverse literature, fostering children's well-being and love of reading. The library's collection covers an array of relevant topics, including inclusion, socio-emotional skills, feminism, and disabilities.

The library is designed to inspire creativity and support language development, while celebrating the African diasporic culture and experience at its core.

Located at Fajara Gardens Restaurant, the library is open Monday to Saturday, from 9 AM to 6 PM, and is free for all to use as a community resource.

**Fun Fact- The Fajara Garden Restaurant is also run by an MIS Alumni!**



# IMPORTANT NEWS- HS

## MOCK and MID YEAR EXAMS

### Key Updates & Focus Areas:

- Form 3 will sit for their Mocks on March 10th, 11th, and 12th, 2025.
- Form 5, 6 & 7 will begin their Mocks on March 13th, 2025.
- 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.

*As exams approach, we encourage all students to stay focused, study hard, and strive for excellence.*

*Good luck!*

# 2nd Term Calendar

**SCHOOL FEES PAYMENTS DUE -Jan 6th 2025**

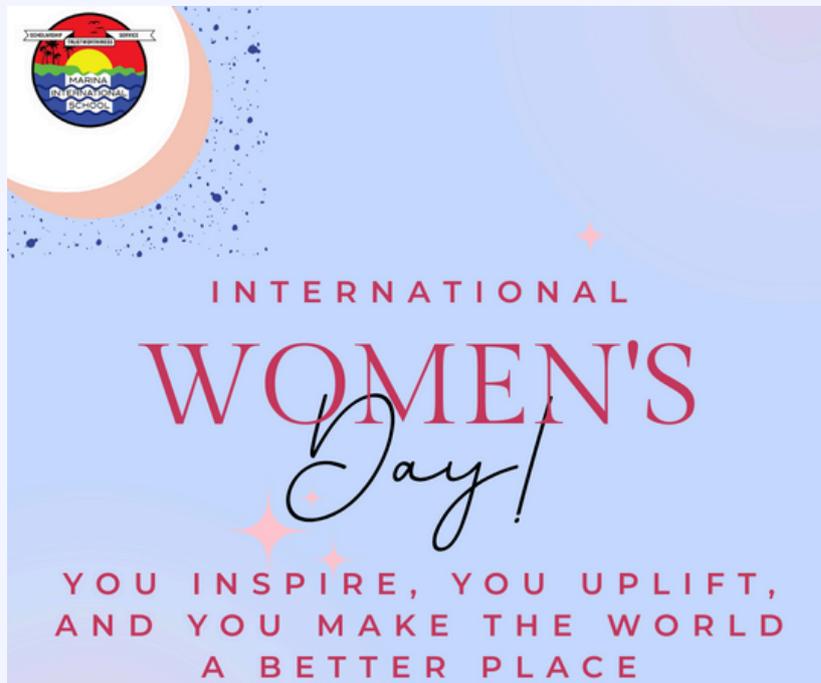
**CHECKPOINT FEES DEADLINE - FEB 10TH 2025**

**Monday, 10th March – Friday, 14th March - Mid-year Assessments**

**Week of Monday, March 17th - 21st - COBIS Compliance Visit**

**Tuesday, April 15th - Open Day**

A C C E L E R A T E   A C T I O N



**“Nothing is impossible, the word itself says ‘I’m possible’”  
-Audrey Hepburn**



## Important Date or Events

- **Mock Exams & Mid-year Exams - starts March 10**
- **COBIS Compliance Week- March 17-21 2025**