The February 6th 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

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.).** Last week, we celebrated the **HS Speech and Prize-giving Day.** This week, we look forward to **HS Career Talk for Form 4, JS Mathematics Challenge** and **Sports Day** for Foundation.

Speech and Prize-giving Ceremony

Speech and Prize-giving Day is a meaningful highlight of our school calendar, where we honor the hard work and achievements of our students over the past academic year. At Marina, it holds a special place, and this year's event last Friday was no exception. It was an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the dedication of our students, highlighting their excellence in both academics and sports.

Board Member, Mr. Omar Sarr handing over a prize during Speech and Prize-giving Day

Our guest speaker, Mrs. Amie ND Bensouda, Founder of Amie Bensouda and Co LP, a parent of four alumni, a former board member and a current grandmother of 2 Marina students, delivered an inspiring message about the significance of education and the importance of hard work in achieving the excellence that Africa is more than capable of.

Guest Speaker, Mrs. Amie ND Bensouda

The music department dazzled the audience with performances from talented students, showcasing their skills in singing and playing instruments, leaving both students and parents impressed. In addition, through poetry and a heartfelt dance tribute to the late Mr. Warren Townsend, our students demonstrated their diverse talents, revealing the well-roundedness of our student body.

Lo- Ruama Lisis Lisboa - Form 5P

The Marina community gathered to witness this special occasion, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to our students, teachers, staff, and board members for coming together to make it a memorable success.

Donation at Bakau New Town School

Last week, the Junior School team, led by Mr. Charles Nguli, Head of Junior School, had the privilege of meeting with the administration of Bakau New Town School for a special occasion. In a spirit of good neighborliness, we donated previously used furniture to our neighboring school to help further equip their classrooms and support teaching and learning. The JS Student Leadership, along with representatives from the board, were present to witness this meaningful event.

After the donation, the furniture was transported and set up in various classrooms, where students are already benefiting from its use. On Tuesday, part of the JS team visited Bakau New Town School and was pleased to see the positive impact the furniture is having on the school's learning environment.

The longstanding relationship between Marina International and Bakau New Town School spans several decades.Over the years, Marina has supported the school in various ways, including providing a water source and, during the COVID-19 pandemic, facilitating a donation of masks and cleaning products by the Class of 2000 through the Alumni Association to help curb the spread of the virus.

Looking ahead we hope to strengthen our bond and keep forging a great relationship through a mentorship programme that will include knowledge transfer from our students to theirs.

Marina Magic- Foundation

EYFS Peek of the Week

This week, outdoor learning was packed with exciting, hands-on activities that sparked creativity and teamwork.

The children enjoyed washing clothes, teaching them practical skills and collaboration.

They explored construction, building with materials to boost problem-solving and engineering skills.

Making playdough offered sensory fun while enhancing fine motor skills,

and sand play inspired imagination as they built castles and shared tools

Creative writing and mark-making made our imaginative learners express ideas through drawings and writing letters.

The math's corner focused on valuing numbers which was integrated through counting, sorting, and interactive play. Outdoor learning beautifully blended education, play, and exploration!

Submitted by:
Ms. Monica Ndambuki

Marina Magic- HS

Biology Class with Mrs. Olorunto

As exams approach, it becomes increasingly important for students to apply the theory they've learned in order to deepen their understanding and see how concepts work in practice, especially in science. In Mrs. Olorunto's biology class, the A-level practical sessions are a focused and serious endeavor, with students working hard to replicate what they observe under the microscope. At Marina, scie
nce practicals are given the utmost attention, as consistent practice is key to developing skill and mastery. We wish our students the best of luck and excellent grades in their upcoming exams!

THANK YOU!

Alumni Donation

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Alumni engagement is crucial for the growth and development of any school, and Marina is no exception. Our alumni continue to show their support by generously donating books and craft materials for the arts. The recent donation from Nancy Jallow, Founder and CEO of Global Bridges, comes at an ideal time, as we welcome a new art teacher who is eager to inspire and nurture our students' creativity.

We are deeply grateful for this contribution and encourage more alumni to give back, as their involvement plays a vital role in strengthening the Marina community.

SPEECH DAY SPONSORS

We would like a express our gratitude and say a special THANK YOU to our sponsors that made the day possible.

1. Board of Governors, Marina International School
2. Marina International School Alumni Association
3. Mrs. Amie ND Bensouda
4. Mrs. Janet Sallah-Njie
5. Mrs. Aji Penda Sankareh
6. INET
7. Charles Jow Memorial
8. Africell, Gambia Ltd
9. Ecobank Gambia Ltd
10. QCell Ltd
11. Kerr Sainey Gaye
12. SHIVEnterprise
13. Smart Business Group
14. KJ Cupcakes
15. MP Trading

MARINA AND THE SEED PROJECT PARTNERSHIP

We are excited to announce the launch of an incredible Basketball Camp Program, a collaboration between the SEED Project and Marina International School, taking place this weekend, on February 8th and 9th, 2025, at Marina International School, The Gambia. The SEED Team arrives from Senegal on Friday and will engage in skill transference and play an all star game on Sunday at the traffic lights court. The entire Marina Community is invited to the opening ceremony on Saturday at 1pm.

About the Basketball Camp

This program is designed to nurture young athletes by offering top-tier basketball training while also promoting leadership, teamwork, and essential life skills. The SEED Project, in partnership with organizations such as NBA Africa, NBA Academy, and Basketball Without Borders, has played a key role in developing talent that has progressed to high school, college, and even professional basketball levels.

Why Your Child Should Participate in this amazing experience

- Skill Enhancement: Receive expert coaching to improve basketball abilities
- Leadership Development: Engage in life skills and character-building sessions
- Exposure to Opportunities: Gain access to potential scholarships and advanced basketball programs

We strongly encourage your child to take part in this unique and transformative experience. Please ensure their timely arrival on both days with appropriate sportswear and a water bottle.

FOUNDATION SPORTS DAY!!!

Our tiny tots in KEY STAGE ONE are simply thrilled to invite family and friends to their sports day! Don't forget to mark your calendars!

Important Date or Events

- **School Fees Due- Jan 6th 2025**
- **Checkpoint Exam Fees - Feb 10th 2025**
- **HS Career Talk -February 7th 2025 - Form 4**
- **JS Mathematics Challenge - Friday February 7th 2025**
- **Foundation Sports Day! - Feb 12th 2025**

2nd Term Calendar

SCHOOL FEES PAYMENTS DUE -Jan 6th 2025

HS Career Talk -February 7th 2025 - Form 4

JS Mathematics Challenge - Friday February 7th 2025

CHECKPOINT FEES DEADLINE - FEB 10TH

Wednesday, 12th February - Sports Day for Foundation, Year 1, and Year 2

Wednesday, 19th February – Sunday, 23rd February - Midterm Break

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

Week of Monday, March 17th - COBIS Compliance Visit

Day Tuesday, April 15th - Open Day

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." – Helen Keller

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