

## ST GEORGE'S COLLEGE

One of the World's Leading Independent Schools

HEADS-UP! October 2023 Newsletter Volume 9 Issue 7



### FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

News during the month of October was overshadowed by tragic events that unfolded on Wednesday 11th of October. News reached us that Ashley Musendekwa had been involved in a fatal road traffic accident. Ashley was Deputy Head Boy and a talented young man in every respect. He contributed so much to the College community and he is sorely missed. May his soul rest in peace.

The last week in September included both our annual Prize Giving and Leavers Service followed by lunch. Our guest speaker at Prize Giving was Tawanda Sibanda, OG 2000; currently a Partner at McKinsey. He had made the journey especially from San Francisco, US, to address us. His speech was provocative and uplifting, encouraging us all to aspire for excellence but to be mindful of our own wellbeing.

The Leaver's Service is always

a sentimental journey for all involved, whether it be students, parents or staff. This year was no different. Mass was celebrated in the Chapel which included the traditional "laying on of hands" and was followed by a lunch at the pavilion.

Our examination classes left on the 29th September for study leave as our first major Cambridge examinations started on the 3rd October. Parents/teacher consultations for the junior forms were well attended but I was very disappointed in the parental turnout for the Form Three Ignatian evening, with nearly two thirds of the parental body not attending.

It is at these Ignatian evenings that we discuss relevant issues concerning the young men and women's development both educationally and spiritually as well as discussing practical issues concerning teenagers.





### SGC @127 YEARS

## RIP Ashley Musendekwa

The College is deeply saddened by the untimely death of Deputy Headboy Ashley Musendekwa on Wednesday 11 October 2023. Ashley was involved in a car accident on his way home after an afternoon exam. His funeral service was conducted on Saturday 14th October at the Revelations Methodist Church and he was laid to rest at Glen Forest Memorial Park......

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#### **RIP Ashley Musendekwa**

The College is deeply saddened by the untimely death of Deputy Headboy Ashley Musendekwa on Wednesday 11 October 2023. Ashley was involved in a car accident on his way home after an afternoon exam. His funeral service was conducted on Saturday 14th October at the Revelations Methodist Church and he was laid to rest at Glen Forest Memorial Park the same day.

His classmates gave glowing testimonies of how his life had impacted upon theirs. They described him as having a competitive spirit in all areas, yet he used his competitiveness to help bring others up. He was a natural at mentoring others in academics, sport, matters of faith, and even on the social scene. The most recent school report has his teachers describing him as "a consistently exceptional student who is a pleasure to teach because of his keen interest and commendable work ethic".

His achievements at school include Colours for academics, tennis and several awards in various areas of school life, leading ultimately to his appointment as Deputy Headboy. He served very well in this role and was well loved by all, especially the juniors with whom he had a special bond. At the 2023 Academy and Prize Day, Ashley was awarded the Roy Cook Trophy for Service, which is awarded for Service to College in Leadership, Academics, Sporting, and Personal Example.

During the funeral service one of his teachers said of him, "Ashley exemplified all of the qualities that we are promoting when we exhort our students to be "people of God, people for and with others".

We offer our condolences to Ashley's family and continue to pray for their consolation and comfort. May his dear soul rest in the peace and mercy of the Lord whom he served so impactfully in his few years of life. #AMDG

