

ST GEORGE'S COLLEGE

One of the World's Leading Independent Schools

HEADS-UP! January 2024 Newsletter Volume 11 Issue 1



SGC @127 YEARS

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

We are only in week three of the first term but there is already so much to report. However, I wish to take us back to 2023 when we had a visit from

the Father General of the Jesuits on the 15th of December. Fr Soza is the leader of the largest religious order in the world and had specifically requested to come to see St George's College whilst he was visiting the Province of Southern Africa.

Fr Soza was aware that we had recently been accredited as an HMC school and are rightfully acclaimed as one of the best independent schools in the world.

Both SDC Chairs of HH and SGC attended a working breakfast with Fr Soza and then myself and others present, accompanied him on a tour of both schools before he spoke with some Jesuit communities and celebrated Mass in the College chapel. He was impressed with everything that he heard and saw.

We started 2024 with Prefects attending Prefects camp at Aberfoyle in the Honde Valley. We have an excellent group of prefects lead by Gabriel Mandiwona as Head Boy.

Prospective L6 Students, including external candidates started their Service projects on Tuesday 9th January. These projects at over 25 agencies both in and outside Harare, are fundamental to our student's formation whilst they are at the College. Indeed, HMC during their accreditation process singled out these projects are one of the things man sets us apart from many other schools.

On the 15th of January we shared an excellent evening with all our new Form One parents. It was a very positive and social evening.

We have adopted the theme "we are not alone" for 2024. In October 2023 there was a special synod held in the Vatican involving both clergy and lay people. The definition of "synod" refers to a rich diversity of people praying, listening and engaging in dialogue. The synod in the Vatican adopted the theme "we are not alone".

There were a number of incidents that happened last year, when we as a diverse school community had to come together, listen, pray and engage in dialogue. As we start 2024 we know that we journey through the year as a school community and remind ourselves that "we are not alone".

We have now received all of our Cambridge examination results. There were some very pleasing individual results, particularly at AS and A level where seven students at both levels achieved at least three "A" grades. IGCSE results were generally good but with pass rates below those of the last couple of years. I did mention that this was an expectation in my speech at 2023 Prize Giving and this was reinforced by the following message from Cambridge examinations "the standard examinations in 2023 will return to the standards of 2019".

Visit from the Father **General of the Jesuits**



In This Issue:

- Prefects camp at Aberfoyle
- Form One Parents Evening.
- Our 2024 theme
- Cambridge examination results.

KEY DATES

02/02/24 Club Sign Up Fair

04/02/24 St George's College Regatta

14/02/24 Ash Wednesday/LenternCampaign

Launch

U6 Parent/Teacher Conferrence

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FROM THE HEAD'S DESK (Continued)

That of course was referring to the intervening COVID years and the effects on exam preparations and the results. Our overall pass rates this year were virtually identical to those in 2019. Pass rates of 84% IGCSE, 93% AS and 96% A level compare with 2019 pass rates of 84%, 95% and 95%, respectively. Of course, there is room for improvement, there always is, but the results were pretty much as we expected.

We have initiated talks with parents and students concerning use of cell phones, management of time and content on phones. These have been well attended.

We cannot escape these phones but we can take care about how they are used. These devices in teenager's hands can be thoroughly destructive and we had a number of incidences last year that were proof of that, literally shattering people lives. I do not exaggerate. So please make use of these evenings as we try and navigate our way through this mine-field of appropriate use of these devises.

Vaping is another issue. There is now medical evidence that these things are harmful to people's health as well as being addictive. May I make it quite clear that vaping devices will be treated as serious drugs and disciplinary procedures will follow if your son or daughter are found with these items in their possession.

Despite what I have just alluded to, I am hugely positive about this year. We have a wonderful group of students and parents and I have no doubt that in partnership, we can make great things happen this year."



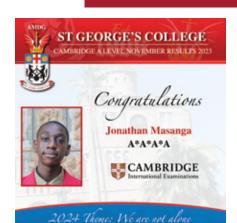


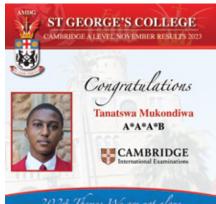




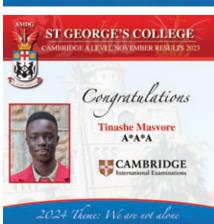


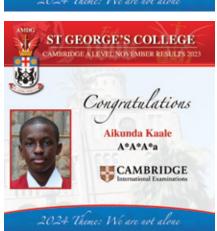
2023 TOP CAMBRIDGE A LEVEL CANDIDATES

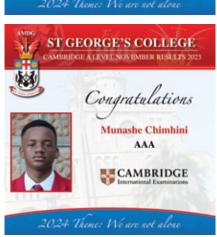


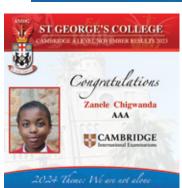


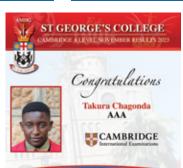


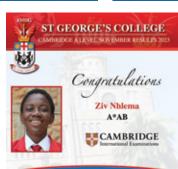


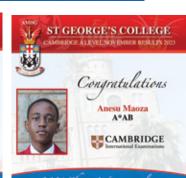




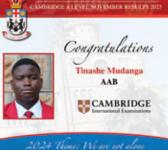


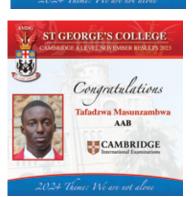


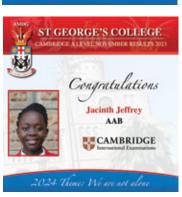


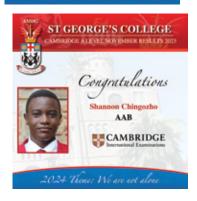






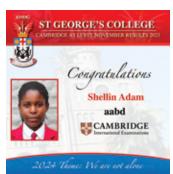


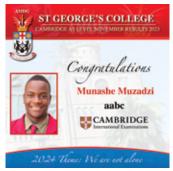


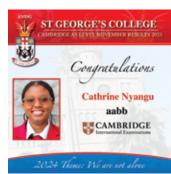


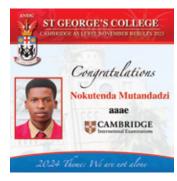
2023 TOP CAMBRIDGE AS LEVEL CANDIDATES

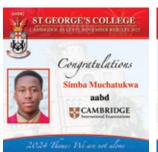


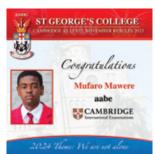










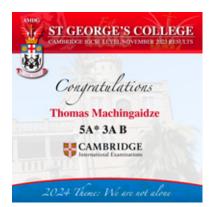






2023 TOP CAMBRIDGE IGCSE LEVEL CANDIDATES

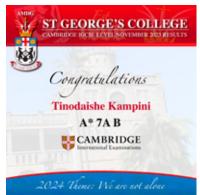


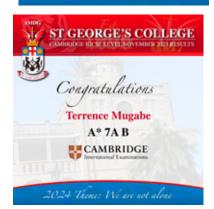


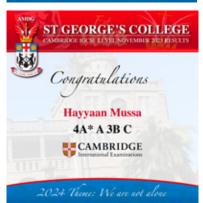


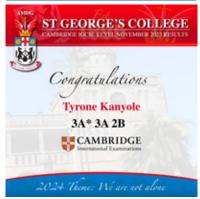


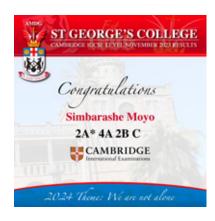


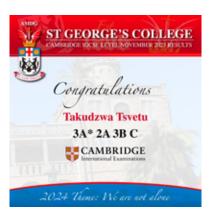














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2024 PREFECTS INDUCTION







