



On Thursday afternoon last week the French Department organised a trip to the Alliance Francaise in Town for the French students in Form 2 and Form 4. It was the French International Day that is marked every year with loads of activities organized by the Alliance Francaise here in Kenya. Among the activities that our esteemed French students were involved in were fun games, *slam* (style of rap in France) and a concert to mention but a few.

Le Séjour à l'Alliance Française. Masidza Galavu (F2)

A l'autre façon, à tous qui entendent le RFI, nous avons une nouvelle programme à vingt heures au les Jeudis. Elle s'appelle Culture. Cette programme est Kenyane, à fait ici dans le pays. Elle concentre de les beaucoup aspects culturelle de Kenya. Bien sur, tous c'est en française.



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The great symphony that rises from the lower confines of our School on Fridays always soothes all those who have the pleasure of hearing it. Upon investigation, we were pleasantly surprised to find the very youngest in our School in the form of Class 4, 5, 6 pupils busily strumming guitar strings, playing the piano, thumping drums and best of all playing violins.

Trinit Music, a music production company is in charge of harnessing this great talent from this junior Mozart's. We got a chance to interview Mr. Raphael Njuguna who leads the pack of trainers from Trinit Music and this is what he had to say:

1. *Your name, please?* Raphael Njuguna. we held a camp and the turnout was great!
2. *How did this program come about?* We wanted a convenient and supportive environment for students to learn and the School seemed to be the best place.
3. *Which institute do you work under?* Trinit Music. We approached the School and the School approached the primary section. This response was extremely positive and in fact,
4. *Therefore, you come with your own equipment.* Oh, yes! We were to provide the instruments and the school gave us the premises and students.
5. *What do you wish to achieve this year?* First, the students learn how to play. We shall also hold internal performances in the School at the end of every term. In addition, we wish to participate in an annual inter school competition towards the end of the year. We are also offering a scholarship to the most talented student.
6. *Where did your interest in music come from?* I started music when I was very young. Later, I took it seriously and now I have been teaching for 6 years now.

Stalwarts Unstalled Mark Kiragu (F3)

Yes, they are still here. The Stalwarts, Strathmore's Cricket team added another cap to the victories registered by the School's sports teams this year. In an unpublicised match that was scheduled to coincide with the team's training day on Thursday 13th March 2008, the team coached by former captain **Hesbon Odima** (F4, 2006) exhibited a professional game that saw them register their first victory.

Captained by **Derrick Gaitho** (F3), the team secured a seven run upset against Nairobi School at the Oval Cricket grounds.

It is also worth noting that the team finally hit the half century mark in its batting history by setting a target of 77 runs with **John Ng'ang'a** (F3) securing 20 runs in his innings that spanned the entire match.

The bowling however witnessed a decline in accuracy and the Stalwarts managed to give away 33 extras almost half the total number of runs secured by Nairobi School.

When approached for comment, the Coach had this to say, "They have come a long way and I don't want to spoil their maiden victory but they gave away too many extras

by making some basic mistakes. Its back to the drawing board for us but watch this space, their potential is but beginning to show after the high performance training sessions we had in December last year." A team player who wished to remain anonymous announced that this year's cricket league trophy belongs to the Stalwarts. An announcement whose results we eagerly await

As for those who intend to join this prestigious team, an update on the training days will soon be availed on the secondary notice boards.



The future is looking up for the Stalwarts.



One on One with Mr. Dennis Munuve, Masidza Galavu (F2)

We have all seen him around the pool, in the primary section and having lunch in the School dining hall. Mr. Dennis Munuve joined the Strathmore School teaching staff in January 2008 and the Times went to have an interview with him in order to formally introduce him to the School. Below is what he had to say.

1. *Tell us more about yourself?* I'm a teacher by profession. Went to Jamhuri High School 1997. Graduated in 2002, PhD in physical education and Kiswahili. I have taught in a number of schools: Braeside, UK briefly, Light Academy and Strathmore. I come from a family of five; two brothers and two sisters.

2. *Why did you choose to become a teacher? Was it an ambition from early times or did it just pop out one day?*
It is a tough question! My role models were teachers. I wanted to do something different. I also loved working in institutions. It was an ambition from early times.

3. *Why did you decide to teach in Strathmore?* I lived around here in my early childhood. Strathmore has had a reputation for many years. My first interaction with Strathmore was during the 2007 KCSE.

4. *What subjects do you teach?* Kiswahili, Social Studies and Swimming, all in the primary section

5. *Apart from being a teacher, are you a professional in any other field?*
Not really.

6. *What can you say the greatest challenge teachers, especially here at Strathmore, face?* The greatest challenge is to meet the desires or demands of the pupils, especially in Kiswahili, there is a huge desire of pupils to learn the language and understand it.

7. *What is it that has intrigued you the most about the school?* Discipline.

8. *Any word of advice to the Strathmore fraternity, maybe especially to your students?* Maintain what has been built over the years.

STUDENT OF THE ISSUE

Mike Murage (S8), Masidza Galavu (F2)

1. *Tell us more about yourself.* I like swimming and, as a matter of fact, I have a certificate!

2. *Do you play sports? Which teams are you in?* Yes, I do. I play soccer, basketball and volleyball. I was in the soccer team last year. I have also played two tournaments, in which we won.

3. *How long have you been in these teams?*
So far, two years.

4. *Do you have any activities that you do*

outside school? No. I but intend to start after S8.

5. *How do you balance these activities with your school work, based on the fact that now you are in S8?* I pray to God for help. I also try to manage my time effectively, but it is not easy.

6. *Any word of advice that you would like to give the Strathmore fraternity?*
Always have faith in God. In that way, you can do anything.



Mr. Dennis Munuve photo



File photo (from left): Tevin Muigai (S8), Miles Joshi (S7) & Christopher Gichuhi (S.6) displaying trophies. The trio were instrumental to their teams during this year's gala.

Swimming Gala Strath Media team

Speculation is that this year's rainy Spell was triggered by the School announcing the start of its swimming season. A season that witnessed world class action right here in the School a sure sign that the Sharks still remain the most successful sports team in the School.

Primary Gala

It all began with the primary swimming gala held on Thursday 13th March 2008. As can only be expected, the Strathmore sharks were well represented in all classes and earned their teams the most points. In the lower primary Category A events, **Andrew Wamarema** of Nyati, Class 3 earned his team 46 out their 60 points. The Nyati dominance continued in Class 4 with **Douglas Thinwa** and **Emmanuel Muigai** both of Nyati

earning 52 and 40 points respectively for their team keeping this bullish Nyati run going. Class 5 was dominated by Simba where **Kiambuthi Murugu** earned 69 out of the teams 111 points.

In category B which involves the upper classes, **Edward Ilako** (S8) broke 5 school records. The first to go was the 50m freestyle record where he registered a time of 31.20 which was faster than the fastest times registered for the same stroke in the secondary gala. Other records he claimed were 50m breaststroke - 41.76, 50m backstroke - 39.34, 25m butterfly stroke - 16.24 and the 100m individual medley (IM) - 1:20.24. Needless to say, his team, Chui, won in his class thanks to the contribution of 75 out 103 points. Chui emerged victorious in all the upper classes.

Secondary Gala

As for the secondary gala, the form ones who have historically been considered small fish at most sports events, staged an upset that saw "big fish" such as **Ayub Kibugu** coming in second or third to the likes of **George Muhuhu** (F.1) (see: student of the issue Strathmore Times Edition 26), **Kimathi Kinuthia** (F.1) and **George Osunga** (E.1).

The trio of form ones came close to breaking school records in the freestyle with **George Muhuhu** (F.1) registering a time of 31.65 trailed closely by **George Osunga** (E.1) with 31.76. In the breast stroke, **Kimathi Kinuthia** (F.1) beat his sibling rival **Waiyaki Kinuthia** (F.2) by a whooping 3 seconds registering times of 42.58 and 45.21 respectively. To this the latter attributed no surprise stating that it was expected. **George Muhuhu** was at it once again in the individual

medley beating his closest challenger, **Ayub Kibugu** by 10 seconds, registering a time of 1:30.12.

At the time of going to press, the team analysis was not complete but it is anyone's guess that the top teams will come from Form 1.

What's in a name?

George Thinwa, George Muhuhu, George Osunga, George, George, George... it is indeed worth mention that most of the swimming giants in the School's recent past seem to share this name. After a lot of research, we discovered that the name is derived from the Greek name (Georgios) which was derived from the Greek word (georgos) meaning "farmer, earthworker", itself derived from the elements (ge) "earth" and (ergon) "work". What these "earth workers" have got to do with aqueous affairs we don't know, but they seem more at home there.

APRIL ACTION, Strathmore Times Editor

In her eternal quest to assist her students utilise their spare time well, the School has organised a galore of activities that shall be taking place in the holiday month of April. For the senior most classes of the School, holiday classes shall be running from the Tuesday 8th April to 30th April for the Form 4s and till 25th April for the Class 7s and 8s as they try to make up for lost time.

Junior soccer clinic shall take place for pupils of Class 2 and 3 from 10th April to 25th April where they shall try to gain basic skills in shooting, dribbling and passing. Another junior activity is the Junior Tennis Training which shall be available to a limited number (16) of pupils from Mon. 4th April to Friday 25th April.

The Sharks shall also be recruiting this holiday and their sessions shall take place everyday from 8th April to 29th April. Other sports that shall be training this holiday include:

1. Cricket
2. Rugby
3. U-15 rugby
4. Volleyball

For those interested in sharpening non-sporting skills, there shall be 2 computer courses:

1. Desktop Publishing Course for Form 1: 7th to 11th April (8.15 AM to 12.45 PM.)
2. Macromedia Flash 8 course for Form 2 and 3 from 21st to 25th April (8.15 AM to 12.45 PM.)

The Strathmore Rangers shall set camp at Mountain

Rock in Nanyuki from Wednesday 16th to Saturday 19th April.

The Strathmore School Community Service Programme shall be running with over 120 students getting posted to various institutions for two weeks starting 7th April and ending 18th April. The Programme's co-ordinator, Mr. Kinyua has appealed to all the students to keep time in arriving to their various postings especially in this rainy season characterised by heavy traffic on roads.

For all those interested in participating in these activities, we advice you to get letters from the relevant people (coach, class teacher, activity patron) in order to gain permission from your parents/ guardians and to make relevant payments in good time.

WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE TO DO, ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAYS!