



Over 150 students participated in the Strathmore School Community Service Programme in the April Holidays.

The students drawn from Form 2 and 3 were posted to 14 different stations where they volunteered their services for two weeks.

Some of the stations they were posted to include:

1. Kenyatta National Hospital
2. Kwetu Home of Peace
3. Nairobi High Court
4. St. Martin's Childrens' Home

Community Service, Masidza Galavu (F2)



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Publisher

Rangers Camp



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The Kenyatta Story, Joseph Migwi(F3)

The sensitive side of Strathmore School students was epitomised in the kind actions of the ten students assigned to Kenyatta National Hospital. These Strathmoreans after playing with the children in the paediatric ward, noted a great deficiency in the number of toys and other play items available to the toddlers.

They then spoke to the matron of the ward, Mrs. Gicheru to find out what they could do to assist in making the hospital stay of these young angels a better one.

After the consultation, they did not hesitate to dig deep into their not so deep pockets and managed to fund raise Kshs. 3,500/=. The money was used to buy toys: cars, dolls, teddy bears, colourful displays and even a wall clock. These put together with all the old toys these gentlemen had stuffed in their abodes were

then handed over to the hospital on their last day of service.

The handing over ceremony was well attended with the hospital's paediatric facility coming to a near halt as the children and their caregivers - doctors, nurses et al - came to the Safaricom Playroom to witness these rare feat.



Pic1: Joseph Migwi handing over the toys

To cap it all, the Sister-in-Charge expressed their gratitude to the students saying, "You have done something great today, these children will definitely benefit from these toys and will remember you long after

you've gone. On our part I hope working here has inspired some of you to consider careers in the medical fields. Thank you!"

We hope so too, don't we?



Pic2



Pic3

Pic2: Cleaning up at Thogoto Home for the Aged.

Pic3: Magara looking for beef!

Pic4: Victor sorting out laundry at Dagoretti Children's Home.



Pic4

Payment? Many ask whether you get paid for community service. The answer is that a service is an act of help or assistance and as A. Lawrence Lowell (political scientist and educator) put it, "Anyone who sees in his own occupation merely a means of earning money degrades it; but he that sees in it a service to mankind ennobles both his labour and himself."

Rangers' Camp, Aloysius Maina (F3)

In an interview with Mr. Robert Wahome, the exploits of the School's Defence Force over the April holidays were revealed.

1. *Where did you go and how long did you stay?* We went to Mountain Rock in Nyanyuki. The Rangers go there every year. We left on Thursday morning and came back two days later, Saturday 18th April.

2. *What activities do you organise there?* Excursions up Mount Kenya. We also had sporting activities, mainly soccer but we also had swimming at a nearby hotel. In addition, we had horse-riding and boat riding. This year a mini-gala was held for the patrols. Unfortunately, we were unable to do rope climbing because the facilities were closed for routine maintenance.

3. *What are the benefits for the boys in these activities?* They learn organisation in the tent and tidiness as a patrol. In this way, they become mature and learn how to work as a team in the new surroundings. Mass was also said twice to help them spiritually.



Pic5: Some of the students during the course.

Publishing,

Gabriel Wamunyu (F1A) - Correspondent

The computer course kicked off on Monday, 7th April. The course registered a 100% success with all 44 computers available being utilised. Sadly though, most of the form 1's arrived at 8.30am, which says a lot about our punctuality because it was supposed to start at 8.15am.

Our instructor was Mr. Sammy Luvizu who had a tough time taming the form 1's, but managed to when he announced that there would be an exam at the end of the week.

We were taught Microsoft Publisher where we needed to make publications with

and without templates and also a bit of designing was needed. Our creativity was tested when we received a talk on design and the need to be original from Hesbon Odima.

The exam was designed to test how much we remembered on the use of mini-bars and toolbars etc. It lasted for 2hrs yet we were supposed to stop 35 minutes earlier.

We were given a second exam to make up for those who forgot to save their work or those who had no clue on what to do.

In the end, we had a lot of educative fun.

4. *What was the most interesting event during the trip?* That would be the excursion, where we ascended the mountain having to cross rivers with one-log bridges. It was quite a challenge but in the end we all made it albeit a little wet and muddy.

5. *Did you encounter any problems during your stay there?* Not really, but there were many ants, but lets leave it at that.

6. *I know you had Fr. Njugi with you. How is it having a priest with you? How do the boys feel about this?* The priest arrived a day after the boys. He celebrated mass in the mornings. During the Rosary, which was said everyday, he offered to hear confessions. The boys really enjoyed his presence and in the end they went home having learnt that you can have God included in all the activities you do.



Pic 6



Pic7: ALERT! One of the Rangers patrols saluting the Inspector. (Yes, they put up the tent on their own. Good job, eh!)

Pic6: Enjoying the scenery on the first day.

Various Centres - Mark Kiragu (F3)

From the heading, this may seem like just another quick summary of one of those 'by-the-way' activities that Strathmoreans might have been involved in. But this was an eye-opening experience for we who were lucky enough to be posted to the mysterious-sounding 'Various Centres'. Some of the places we visited include: Dagoretti Children's Home, Thogoto Home for the Aged, Laini Saba Primary School and Kiambu District Hospital.

Under the leadership of Form 3&'s very own **Bless Kioo**, the strong 24-man team set off in search of doing themselves proud by giving Thogoto Home for the Aged, a helping hand



Pic8: Victor Anyango doing his cleaning rounds at

at Dagoretti Children's Home, liaising with ill patients and listening to them at Kiambu district hospital among many other long-lined descriptions of what we were up to.

All in all, it was more fun than we expected and, given another chance, we would not mind re-doing what we did and re-don the name "Various People".

the tasks we were given.

The beads of sweat which trickled down faces everywhere were living testimonies of the manual labour we had endured. However, the relish at the thought of having performed tasks we previously didn't think possible kept us in good spirits in the bus, some of us singing away to ignore the blisters on our hands (**Brian Waweru** (F3) and **Collins Obare** (F3) sported fresh blisters on their hands as memoirs of giving back to society)

Manual labour was not all we did (even if it was most), we also had time to socialize with students of a completely different learning environment at Laini Saba, take care of small children