



## THE JOY OF GIVING

**Keith Gichoya, 3A**

As has often been said, there is greater happiness in giving than in receiving – a truth that lies at the heart of our school’s values. From its founding to the activities we engage in today, our actions are guided by compassion and service.

Through charity visits, community service, the *Upeo Programme* for gifted students, and the e-waste project by Form Four students, our school continues to impact lives beyond its walls. The highlight of these efforts was the *Kolongoni Practical Project of Hope*, initiated by the Form Three students, which gifted Kolongoni Secondary School a new laboratory – a beacon of hope for future learners.

Though the journey demanded effort and sacrifice, our students found true fulfilment in serving others. Indeed, the greatest reward lies not in what we receive, but in the joy of giving.

*In giving, we find purpose; in serving, we find ourselves.*



## THROUGH THICK AND THIN

**Michael Kariuki, 3A**

Renowned for its academic distinction and remarkable sporting record, Strathmore School has experienced yet another eventful year, reaffirming its place among the leading competitors in school sports.

### Football: The Sangomas’ Journey

They participated in several tournaments and leagues, showcasing both resilience and talent. In the Southampton Youth League, the team fought hard and secured an impressive third place finish. They later took part in the Westlands Sub-County Competition, where their run ended in the semi-finals.

Despite these setbacks, the Sangomas’ journey is far from over. With two more tournaments ahead – one at RVA and another at Moi Educational Centre – they still have opportunities to finish the season on a high note.

### The Bandits’ Season of Highs and Lows

The Bandits had a slightly more dramatic season. Their first major appearance came in the Rosslyn Tournament during second term. The Bandits dominated the group stage, advancing undefeated, but narrowly lost to Braeside in the final.

The team pressed on, showing admirable determination. They competed in both the Hillcrest and Blackrock tournaments, reaching the quarter-finals and semi-finals respectively. Their final shot at silverware came in the prestigious Prescott Cup. Although they did not progress beyond the group stage, they managed a crucial win that secured their place in next year’s edition.

### The Stallions: A Lesson in Perseverance

Their campaign began at the Rosslyn Tournament, where they were eliminated in the group stage. Rather than discouraging them, this early exit fueled their determination to improve.

In the Westlands Sub-County Games, the Stallions battled valiantly, only to face the East African Champions in the semi-finals – a tough matchup that ended in defeat.





## THE PRIZE-GIVING DAY: A TRIBUTE TO DEDICATION AND DISTINCTION

*By Daryl Langat 3 &*

Even before the event began, the auspiciousness of the day was unmistakable. A vibrant mood lingered between the blades of grass and within the rustling of leaves. It was felt in the endless chatter about Pennant and Sportsman-of-the-Year predictions, in the playful arguments that rose and fell on the terraces, and in the cheerful music that filled the air as the entertainment teams prepared for their performances. A steady stream of students and parents arrived, and by half past one, the long-awaited event commenced.

Proceedings began with the national anthem, followed by an entertainment segment that showcased the school's rich talent. The school choirs performed pieces that had earned them recognition at the Kenya Music Festivals, Peter John's iconic Talent Show performance was reimagined and elevated, and a young rapper from the primary section delivered an impressive piece alongside Mr. Kyeswa. The teachers' band also delighted the audience with a tasteful rendition of a classic Afro hit by Les Wanyika.

Next came the speeches. Mr. Andrew Karani and Mr. Githaiga each took turns to call upon the Form Four and Grade Nine students to receive their sashes, a moment of pride and recognition. The Principal, Mr. John Muthiora, then delivered his address, reflecting on the milestones of the year and inspiring hope for 2025.

A highlight of the afternoon was the **Valedictorian Speech** — a cherished tradition that marks the transition from speeches to awards. More than a symbolic pivot, it represents the culmination of teamwork and shared effort, with many students contributing ideas and helping shape the final masterpiece that leaves a lasting impression year after year.

Then came the much-anticipated **awards segment**. Students were recognised for excellence in academics, sports, talent, and community service. The pinnacle of the afternoon was the **Sportsman of the Year Award** — the most coveted honour at Strathmore School. This accolade demands resilience, persistence, and determination. While many students embodied these traits and five outstanding nominees stood out for their talent and hard work, it was **David Mumanyi** whose inspiring journey ultimately earned him this prestigious recognition.

*Beyond the applause and trophies, Prize-Giving Day holds deeper meaning. It offers recognition to some and reflection to all. Awards may come as certificates, sashes, or shining trophies — but sometimes, they exist all around us, within the traditions we uphold and the community we cherish. They may not always be tangible, but surely, they are far greater.*

# A THRIVING FACET: THE HEARTBEAT OF ART

DARYL LANGAT, FORM 3&

Art — there are many ways to describe it. A subject. A hobby. An interest. Someone’s livelihood. The grease that oils the gears of life. It is a luscious field of tall grass, growing freely, kissed by the warm rays of the sun; flowers scattered like inspiration itself, swaying endlessly in the wind. Or perhaps, it is the interior of a small cottage — warm and fragrant with the smell of soup — standing in comforting contrast to the cold, snowy world outside.

Art comes in many forms. While many perceive it as purely physical — painting, drawing, sculpture — its scope extends far beyond. Within Strathmore, art can be found everywhere: in the art room of the Activities Block, in the harmonies of the music room, in the writings of the library, on the fields, and even in the school’s architecture. Walk with me through these halls as we explore the creative endeavours that coloured Strathmore’s year.

Early in the year, Strathmore participated in the **Kenya National Drama and Film Festivals**. *Yuri Troniak (Grade 9)* produced an inspiring documentary celebrating female Kenyan athletes, while *Adrian Murage (Form 4)* explored the pressing issue of vaping among youth in his thought-provoking podcast, featuring an interview with a medical professional. Under the guidance of *Mr. Omollo*, Strathmore stands only steps away from producing a full-scale, high-quality Broadway-style production.

Then came the much-anticipated **Talent Show**. On a bright afternoon in the second term, students gathered in the school hall, eager to showcase their skills. It was a deeply cultural and electric event, featuring unforgettable performances such as *Peter John’s* magical rendition of *Riptide*. The library windows once again became a gallery of creativity, adorned with graphite portraits, landscape paintings, and stunning photography — each piece a testament to the school’s diverse artistic brilliance.

Strathmore also shone at the **Kenya National Music Festivals**, excelling at the national level. From the Primary to the Secondary sections, performances were exceptional. The Junior Secondary choir secured **first place**, while the Secondary choir made remarkable progress from the previous year. Even the solo acts impressed the judges, and Strathmore proudly received the **trophy for ‘Best School Overall’** — a reflection of the school’s ever-evolving musical excellence.

**Art at Strathmore never ceases to surprise. Who knows what the future holds — perhaps a full-length play, weekly recitals, or even a feature film? One thing is certain: we will continue to create, innovate, and take confident strides towards undeniable greatness.**



# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM: A YEAR OF TALENT AND TRIUMPH

Keith Gichoya, 3A

This year, numerous students demonstrated — as clear as crystal — their exceptional talents across a wide range of disciplines. From chess and debate to coding and other co-curricular activities, Strathmore students once again made the school proud through their remarkable achievements.

In the realm of chess, **Kyle Kuka (Grade 9)** emerged as the best youth chess player not only in Kenya, claiming the **U-20 championship**, but also in the entire continent as **Africa’s best U-15 player**. In debate, **Murakaru Njuki (Form 3)**, **Ayden Kinyanjui (Form 2)**, **Jayden Kiragu (Form 2)**, **Stephan Ogembo (Form 2)**, **Enock Maina (Form 4)**, and **Sean Shundi (Form 4)** proudly represented **Team Kenya**, carrying the national flag high in international competitions. The Grade 9 students dominated the junior categories of various debate tournaments, securing victory after victory.

In addition, **Austin Muniu (Grade 9)** showcased his athletic prowess on the global stage as a **Team Kenya representative** at the **Roll Ball World Championship**. All in all, this year has reaffirmed that true talent often shines far beyond the four walls of a classroom. Every student is called to discover and nurture his unique abilities — for it is far better to try and excel than to live with the regrets of “what could have been.”



Strathmore Times 2025  
Production of Strathmore  
Media 2025