



SERVICE WITH PURPOSE

by Jerrel Riordan 3A

Community service involves reaching out to those in need and making a positive difference within society. At Strathmore, it is one of the most valued activities, as it nurtures students' spiritual growth and instils compassion and selflessness. As the Bible reminds us, it is better to give than to receive.

Students who took part in the community service programme shared memorable experiences. Those who visited a children's home described the visit as heart-warming and fulfilling. Interacting with the children brought them immense joy, especially when they saw the children's faces light up with joy.

Others who volunteered at the Upperhill Library also found the experience enjoyable and meaningful. They participated in storytelling sessions and learned the importance of teamwork as they worked together to organise and shelve books. Through these activities, they gained valuable lessons on cooperation and service to the community.



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Strathmore Times is a publication of
Strath Media 2026
www.strathmore.ac.ke

THE YEAR BEGINS, THE VISION CONTINUES – 2026

By Daryl Langat 4&

The students descended steadily from their classrooms into the school hall, their chatter a lively symphony of holiday tales and heated debates over football loyalties. 2026 marked the second year the Opening Assembly would unfold within the hall's familiar confines, yet the anticipation was anything but routine.

With everyone settled, the assembly commenced under the solemn guidance of Father Francis, the school chaplain, whose opening prayer cast a reflective hush over the bustling crowd. Mr. Githaiga then called upon Mr. Mwangi, Head of the Primary Section, to welcome the Grade One cohort, who would officially join the school later in the term. In his customary warm style, he reminded the Grade Twos of their role in easing the youngest students into the Strathmore experience.

Next, Mr. Karani took the podium. His speech was masterclass in wit and wisdom. He began by unveiling the incoming Grade Ten cohort, a class distinguished by three streams: 'A', 'Alpha', and the intriguingly named 'Aleph' .(⌘)With erudite flair, he explained the origins of these letters: 'A' heralding the English alphabet, 'α' (Alpha) the Greek, and '⌘'(Aleph) the Hebrew. Beyond nomenclature, he challenged the students with a philosophical choice between freedom and slavery, defining freedom as the ability to do the right thing at the right time.

Following this, Mr. Odhiambo, the newly appointed Head of Tutorial, offered his own brand of sagacious counsel. He equated an hour of study to an hour of prayer, framing education as a sanctified endeavor rather than a mere transactional exchange. He painted teachers not only as purveyors of knowledge but as stewards of souls on an apostolic mission. His rallying cry – **"Be more. Be Strathmore."** – resonated through the hall with quiet force.

Mr. Kiai, Dean of Studies, took a moment to applaud last year's Grade Nine students for their stellar performance, underscoring the power of constructive habits as the new term unfolded.

Finally, Mr. Muthiora outlined administrative changes, noting Mr. Odhiambo's new role and Mr. Githaiga's appointment as Head of Junior Secondary. He revisited student grooming policies, reminding all that the pursuit of true beauty lies not merely in appearance but in character and conduct.

And so, with hearts inspired and minds awakened, the 2026 academic year began on a note of optimism and promise. Here's to a year brimming with excellence, growth, and Strathmore spirit!





KJSEA 2025 – A STRONG FIRST IMPRESSION

By Pius Nyambok

If first impressions matter, then the **inaugural KJSEA examination** made a memorable one. The **Grade Nine Class of 2025** approached the new assessment with confidence and left with results that spoke volumes.

The cohort posted an enviable **average score of 7.000 out of 8**, supported by **11 EE1s, 67 EE2s, and 11 ME1s**. In key subjects, performance soared even higher:

- **English** recorded a mean of **7.596** (54 EE1s, 34 EE2s)
- **Mathematics** followed closely with **7.708** (68 EE1s, 18 EE2s)

Integrated Science led the pack at **7.869** (77 EE1s, 12 EE2s).

Standing tall at the top were **Owen Bett, Nathan Mugambi, and Peet Saende**, each earning **69 points out of a possible 72**, a near-perfect demonstration of academic promise.

As the school welcomes **43 additional Grade Nine students** into Senior School, confidence is high that they too arrive bearing equally impressive credentials. Congratulations to the **Grade Nine Class of 2025**, you have set the bar high, and the journey has only just begun.



QUEIT OPENINGS, LOUD RESULTS: STRATHMORE'S CHESS STORY

BY PIUS NYAMBOK 3A

Over the December holidays, Strathmore's chess prodigies proved that the game is as much about nerve and nuance as it is about checkmates. From Nairobi to Harare, the school's representatives took on elite opposition and returned with results and resolve that speak to a promising future.

At the national level, Kyle Kuka featured prominently at the Kenya National Chess Championship held at the Westwood Hotel from 26th to 31st December. Pitted against some of the country's most formidable players, including FM Jaden Simiyu, Hawi Kaloki, and CM Ben Magana, Kyle displayed tactical maturity beyond his years. He emerged second overall, a performance that not only underscored his growing stature on the local circuit but also earned him qualification for the Chess Olympiad scheduled for September.

On the continental stage, Strathmore's flag flew high were in Harare, at the African Youth Chess Championship. Among the Kenyan contingent was Ihabi Osundwa (3&), who joined nearly 500 young competitors from across Africa in a gruelling nine-round contest. Hosted at a local high school, the tournament brought together age and gender categories ranging from Under-8 to Under-18, transforming classrooms into arenas of intense strategic combat.

Competing in the highly competitive Under-16 boys' category, Ihabi tallied 5.5 points to finish 16th overall. While the podium remained just out of reach, the experience proved invaluable. "Although I didn't win, I enjoyed the opportunity and would like to go again this year," he said, already eyeing the next fixture on the calendar.

For Strathmore, the message is clear, the pieces are well placed, the players are learning fast, and the next decisive move may not be far off.





KCSE 2025 – WHEN HARD WORK CASHED IN

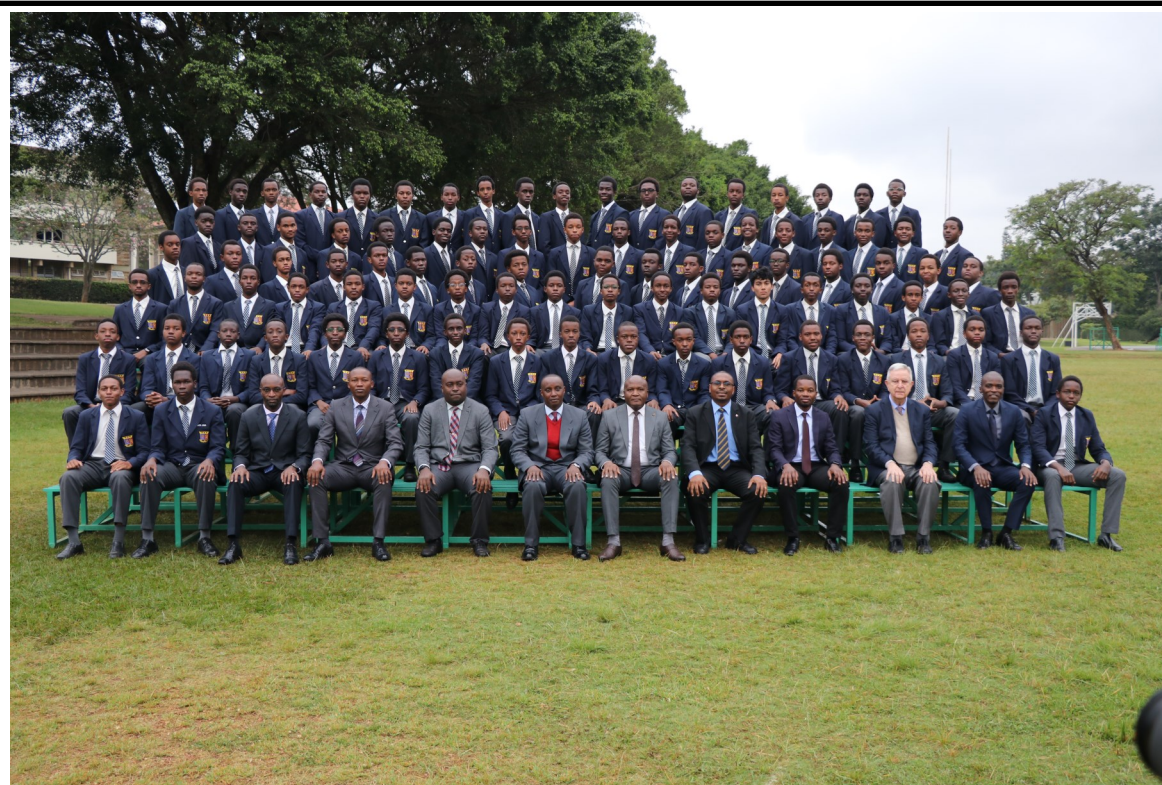
By Pius Nyambok 3A

The Form Four Class of 2025 did more than simply sit their examinations, they made a statement. With a commanding mean score of 10.033, this exceptional cohort transformed the KCSE from a mere assessment into a vivid showcase of discipline, determination, and academic grit. Their results were not just numbers on a sheet; they were a testament to countless hours of dedication, late-night revisions, and a refusal to settle for mediocrity.

The grade distribution read like a ledger of achievement: 8 As, 29 A-s, 31 B+s, 11 Bs, 10 B-s, and 2 C+s. At the very pinnacle of this academic mountain stood David Mumanyi and Njogu Gitau, who jointly claimed top honours with an A grade of 84 points each proof that excellence, when nurtured, rarely travels alone.

Subject performances added further sparkle to the overall results. French led the linguistic charge with a remarkable mean of 11.909, supported by 10A's and 1 A-, demonstrating the cohort's flair for languages. Mathematics emerged as a true arena of intellectual mastery, achieving a mean of 10.696, with a remarkable 41 As and 21 A-s, highlighting the students' exceptional command of logic, problem-solving, and numerical reasoning. In the realm of technology, Computer Studies delivered digital brilliance, boasting 9 As, 17 A-s, and 13 B+s. English spoke for itself with 36 As, 29 A-s, and 20 B+s, confirming that communication remains a formidable strength. Meanwhile, Biology proved that life sciences are alive and thriving, with 19 As, 22 A-s, and 15 B+s, clearly showcasing the students' grasp of the natural world.

In every sense, the Class of 2025 passed not just examinations, but expectations, fears, and even limits. Gratitude rises heavenward, while applause rings firmly for the students, their teachers, and the supportive community that made such achievement possible. This class did not merely reach the finish line, they crossed it with distinction, leaving a legacy for those who follow.



WISDOM IN WORDS: LESSONS FROM STRATHMORE & BEYOND

- ◇ The most important thing about an institution is not about the buildings, it might not be the people. It is *THE SPIRIT* -Mr. Muthiora
- ◇ A new year is like a fresh page in a book yet to be written." – Mr. Karani
- ◇ "This is a new year – a new beginning." – Taylor Swift
- ◇ "Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen – others make it happen." – Michael Jordan
- ◇ "Dreams don't work unless you do." – Mr. Karani
- ◇ "We are our brothers' keepers." – Barack Obama
- ◇ "If you see someone carrying too many books... help them – don't add yours on top!" – Mr. Karani
- ◇ "Discipline is doing what you don't want to do so you can do what you really want to do." Giannis Antetokounmpo
- ◇ "**Serve first. Listen more. Talk less.**" – Mr. Karani
- ◇ "The Desk Is Your Altar: Making the Ordinary Extraordinary." – Mr. Odhiambo
- ◇ "Your striving to be a saint is not something reserved for the future... It is happening now." – Mr. Odhiambo
- ◇ "**A Strathmore man is a Strathmore man everywhere – especially in the hidden moments.**" Mr. Odhiambo
- ◇ "Let us strive to be more resilient, more unified, and more dedicated to the truth." – Mr. Odhiambo
- ◇ *Be more than a student who passes exams or excels in sports.* "**Be More. Be Strathmore.**" Mr. Odhiambo

Compiled by The Print Media Team