

GOLDEN VOICES

Celebrating our power to tell stories

Beyond Our Villages

Vivian's Journey to Australian University

Child Rights in the Digital Space

Arts & Culture

Celebrating Our Culture

Our Threats: FGM & Child Marriage

Humour



Editor's Note: Celebrating the power to tell our stories



I am pleased to share with you our first edition of our magazine. It has been a long journey, sometimes punctuated with doubts that we may not have a publication in the near future. This edition, probably, will attract a lot of criticism considering the rush and the challenges that came with our first experience. Our objective was to give ourselves an opportunity to tell our own stories, a shift from the tradition where students' issues are presented by adults, especially teachers, parents, and guardians.

As Nigerian novelist, Chimamanda Adichie, said in her TED Talk "The Danger of a Single Story," every story matters. This edition is a celebration of our power to tell our stories. You will have an opportunity to laugh, philosophize on controversial topics like sex education, and celebrate the milestones we have made as girls. We showcase and celebrate our ability to express ourselves and our worldview.

On behalf of the Journalism Club, which led the collection of stories, I wish to thank Kakenya's Dream communications staff members Michael Chepkwony, Brian Kiprono, and Lauren Soherr, for helping us in story collection, photography, editing, designing, and overseeing the printing of this magazine. We also appreciate the guidance and support from our patrons, Caroline Ntialei and Bibiana Chimoli, as well as our teacher of English, Austin Otieno. Thanks to ERIKS Development Partner for making our dream of telling our stories a reality. This publication would not have happened if it were not for your support. Enjoy the reading!

Regards,
Evaline Kankano
Editor, Journalism Club

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Journalism Club members

The Vicious Cycle of Laughter in our School

by Evelyne Kankano and Yvonne Nyangasi



Art by Anne-Claire Muteitsi

Laughter resides at Kakenya Girls High School. It stands at the gate eagerly waiting to tickle you and you cannot resist it. It first possesses our security officer, Jeremiah Koros, a "dotcom" staff with a funny bone. The look on his face and how quickly he wears different faces sends you sprawling to the ground with laughter. When duty calls, he gets serious and carries his duties with diligence, wearing a serious face and making sure order is observed. He is an adept reader that you will find at the school compound going through a novel. It is a habit that many students have taken as a challenge. He has these reading glasses, innovatively bandaged with conspicuous white masking tape to hold the frames and lenses together. When asked about the funny-looking glasses, Koros would shift ownership of his precious commodity to one of the staff. He would push the glasses aside and say, with a serious face, "Ah! Hii nilipewa na Madam Joan. Yangu nimeacha kwa nyumba." He often speaks in parables and he succeeds in advising students on the best way to conduct themselves. We consider him our school dad.

Just a few meters from the gate, you will not miss a man with gray hair ritually walking around with a red mug branded "Always". His name is Michael, a self-declared 'Olakuya' who works with communications at Kakenya's Dream. His love for tea is indescribable. He often says the branding echoes his belief that every time is tea time. The mug has seen it all. It used to have a hook-like handle, but not anymore. Olakuya says the mug disagreed with its handle and their marriage ended in a nasty divorce. If you're interested, he would show you a scar on the mug's "armpit" which he says speaks of the conflict and resilience of the mug.

You will walk to class hoping to find refuge from this laughter, but woe unto you. Teachers will follow you with their own doses of laughter. As if that is not enough, our own classmates have joined the league too. They have their bundles they generously offload on us. You will laugh until you lose your voice. Milzen Chepkemoi once said, "kukerebisha" instead of "kurekebisha." Rehema Boke often mutilated Mr. Victor Nyambok's name calling him "Mr. Nyamboko."

Teachers are better gifted when it comes to evoking laughter. Take for instance Mr. Hillary, Madam Sheila, Madam Joan, and Mr. Benson. They seem to have their own alphabet, one with fewer letters. They substitute sound /p/ with /b/, /j/ with /ch/, and /k/ with /g/. For example, Mr. Hillary would say "ben" for "pen" and "beoble" for "people." Sheila would often say "bolebole." From UK (United Kambaland), Mr. Musango remembered to travel with a briefcase containing humour as part of his personal effects. He would say "keymbond" (keyboard) and "nondimbook" (notebook). Our outgoing math and physics teacher, Mr. Miruka, left us with, "Momentararily at rest."

You will rush to the dormitory to give your ribs some rest, but you will meet our matron Mrs. Sarah Kilusu who will not spare you either. She will give ultimatums that come out funny. She has a unique formula of starting her statements by saying an elongated "unajuaaaa" (you know), and then you will probably get her instructions, including "shiky sharp" for six sharp. The bell will ring and you will rush to the assembly where the mother of all laughter is brewed. Our teachers would be standing there with their volumes of tickle, often involving gaffes. Leave alone the usual "this week I will be on duty and I expect maximum cooperation from you." Our principal has this funny way of tasking us to complete her statements. This is where we have succeeded not to laugh for obvious reasons. She would say something like, "I want you to work ha.." and then we finish by saying "hard."

Mr. Austin, who is our teacher of English with Kizungu tupu, struggles also with Kiswahili. One day, he snuck in a mwakenya and read a saying that we doubt he really knew the meaning of. At some point, he asked students to do general cleaning, which, in his perfect Kiswahili, is "usafi wa dharura" (emergency cleaning). Mr. Benson has his own Kiswahili proverb that goes, "cha mkufuu hula hu! Ha." Our journalists too have mastered the art of spicing their reports with overdoses of laughter. Enyewe assembly inatunyeshya mambo!

Welcome to Kakenya Girls High School, the home of endless laughter.
PS: We did not intend to evoke laughter with this write-up.

From a Village in Kenya to a University in Australia: Vivian's Story



Her story reads like a fairy tale: She was born during a conflict between two clans in the Oloolmasai area in 2004 and persevered through challenges to emerge as a victor whose limelight is going international. Meet Vivian Noomali Kilusu, one of the pioneer students of Kakenya Girls High School, who led her class during the 2021 KCSE results. She speaks during a one-on-one interview with Nancy Mbiti.

Kindly tell us about your childhood experience.

I come from the Sikawa area where I have grown up with my eight siblings: three sisters and five brothers. I am the eighth-born in the family. I lost my father when I was 11 years old and our mother has single-handedly been raising us.

I started my education at Oloontare Primary School until standard eight, although I was often out of school due to lack of fees. Life became challenging when we lost our father in 2014. Our mother has been relying on small-scale farming to support us.

What I also remember about my childhood is the frequent clan fights that often sent us away from home. We had to seek refuge in another village whenever there was conflict.

How did you join Kakenya Girls High School?

I don't think I would have been able to join high school if Kakenya's Dream had not intervened. The organization sponsored me to join Shankoe Secondary School, but when Kakenya Girls High School was founded, I came to join other pioneer girls in May 2018. The first cohort consisted of girls from humble backgrounds like myself, whose parents or guardians were struggling to sponsor their high school education. The organization came in as a relief for the girls because many of them could not have proceeded with their education.

What is that one big achievement, other than academic excellence that made you stand out at the school?

I was a member of the Science Club. It was at the club that we discussed with my fellow student Violet Kakenya, our patron Mr. Victor Nyambok, and science teacher Madam Joan Cherono, on the possible projects we can showcase during a science fair competition. We came up with a math project called the SABASH Formula, which was about finding the surface area of a solid cuboid and other solids with uniform cross-sections. The project was a success because we proceeded to the national level, where we emerged the second best.

How did you come to discover your dream career?

My stay at Kakenya Girls was really amazing because this is where I received career mentorship. Through a number of sessions, I was able to realize that I was interested in health, and that is how I decided to study optometry and vision science. It was not an easy decision to make because health is wide. I wanted something unique and to specialize in an area that fascinated me the most. I'm fascinated by how the eye works.

How did you manage to take a lead and qualify to join university?

How did it feel to be the best? What did you study at the university?

In September 2022, I joined Kaimosi Friends University to study a degree in optometry and vision science. After I finished 12th grade, I joined Kaimosi Friends University to pursue a bachelor's in optometry and vision science.



Mr. Victor Nyambok (deputy principal and project patron), Violet Kakenya, and Vivian Kilusu pose for a photo after being awarded for emerging the second best nationally in a YSK contest. The project was dubbed "SABASH Formula."

"Kakenya Girls High School mentored my educational and spiritual life. The school is like a mother to me. It's a bridge that enabled me to cross many valleys of life, and without it I would be stranded."



Vivian in our computer laboratory

You were already pursuing your dream course at the Kenyan university. Why and how did you seek admission to the University of Technology Sydney?

At the end of my first academic year at Kaimosi Friends University, an opportunity at Western Sydney University in Australia presented itself. I was shortlisted by Kakenya's Dream to undergo an interview process. It was a process involving a series of written and oral interviews. I am excited to join the international university and I believe this will inspire other girls to work hard in school. I will be studying a course in medical science at the university.

What are your future plans?

I am planning many things. One of them is to do a master's degree in optometry. I would have wished to do a bachelor's degree in optometry at the Australian university, but medical science has to come first. I want to go back to my earlier plan and do optometry as a graduate degree.

What are your hobbies?

Watching movies, reading, and herding cattle.

What advice can you give to girls, especially students at Kakenya Girls High School?

Kakenya Girls High School mentored my educational and spiritual life. The school is like a mother to me. It's a bridge that enabled me to cross many valleys of life, and without it I would be stranded. I want all students to consider this and appreciate the opportunity they have at the school. You have the best teachers and the best facilities. Utilize them adequately or else you will regret it in the future. Be anxious to learn. Consult your teachers. Use the library and you will excel in your studies.

My Five Tips to Success for Students

1. Form groups to discuss and learn from each other. Avoid tribal-based group discussions.
2. Manage your time well by creating time for every subject. Subject performance contributes to the overall grade.
3. Choose a better student who has a good understanding of a topic to summarize and guide the class.
4. Ask questions even those that look easy so that your teacher can help you internalize key concepts.
5. Don't panic. Panicking is the enemy of success. Consider examinations as ordinary tests.

Memorable Quotes from Vivian

"It is shameful to see students grouping themselves according to the tribes they come from. It is retrogressive and works against the spirit of nationalism. We should break such boundaries and see each other as one community with a common and collective interest to succeed in life."

"It's normal to be nervous or have a little fear, but you should not let fear control you until you cannot concentrate on understanding questions in an examination paper. Confront your fears and do your best."

"Kakenya's Dream has provided a perfect environment for students to grow wings and fly into success. Kakenya Girls High School is an ideal learning institution."



Are Child Rights Under Threat in the Digital Space?

By Siparo Naserian



Students and community members in a procession during Day of the African Child held in Enoosaen

Imagine a world where dreams know no boundaries, where the voices of African children resound with strength and determination. We celebrate our rights—the rights to education, to food, to shelter, to healthcare, to play, to identity, and to protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. Let's ignite our collective responsibility to protect and empower the young souls who embody the beauty, resilience, and promise of Africa.

On June 16 this year, we celebrated Day of the African Child. The theme of the day was "The rights of a child in the digital environment." It reminded us that indeed, we are a digital generation; we cannot run away from the internet, smartphones, computers, and other digital spaces. We have found our new homes on Google, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and other digital avenues, but we also recognize the lurking dangers that threaten our safety. In the vast expanse of cyberspace, criminals target innocent children like us, waiting for a moment of vulnerability to strike. Cases of child trafficking, assault, or murder are common. Many culprits trace these children through social media platforms where their images have been shared.

Let us take a solemn oath to be the guardians of our own digital wellbeing. Let us pledge to be cautious and responsible with our online presence, refraining from sharing personal information and images with strangers. Each one of us must be vigilant and alert, defending ourselves against those who seek to harm us.

However, we cannot bear this burden alone. We need the support of adults to create a safe space for us to learn, play, and grow. Together, we can ensure that the digital realm becomes a sanctuary, free from the clutches of predators. We implore you, adults, to educate yourselves about online safety, to advocate for stronger regulations against child exploitation, and to stand with us as we navigate this ever-evolving digital landscape.

Let us not forget that behind the statistics and the challenges, there are faces full of hope, dreams yearning to take flight, and the limitless potential of African children. We celebrate their resilience, their strength, and their unwavering spirit. Let us raise our voices in unison, demanding a future where every African child can grow and thrive. Together, we have the power to build a world that celebrates the joy and innocence of childhood, where every child can embrace their dreams without fear.

Adapted from a speech delivered by the author as a student representative during the Day of the African Child celebrations held in Enoosaen on June 17, 2023.



Siparo follows the Day of the African Child event. She was one of the guest speakers of the event



Siparo addresses attendants at the Day of the African Child event

Opinion: Why Sex Education Matters

By Leah Samurai and Beryl Chepkirui



Students pose for photos after receiving sanitary pads

Let's face it: Many teenage girls are sexually active. Society continues hammering "the sermon of abstinence" to students hoping and assuming that the message gets home. Despite all these efforts, many girls are getting pregnant and threatening their lives by procuring abortions from non-medical experts. Several methods are employed to terminate the pregnancies. Girls tell horrifying tales about having their bellies pressed hard, having objects inserted through the private birds, and swallowing dangerous concoctions in a bid to reverse the reality. What if we students would open up and shout at the top of our voices that we are sexually active? What if we demand to be given elaborate sex education? What if we demand access to contraceptives? We believe that access to contraceptives and extensive sex education will protect us from unwanted pregnancies and risky abortions.

We will also protect ourselves from sexually transmitted infections (STIs) such as HIV/AIDS, gonorrhea, and syphilis. We will also reduce cases of

child marriage, considering that some girls drop out of school when they get pregnant as they are forced by circumstances to marry the men responsible for their conditions. Further, when a girl gets married at an early age, she is more likely to be subjected to gender-based violence and sexual harassment.

Let's also consider the situations that push girls into sex. Due to poverty, some girls trade sex for basic items such as sanitary pads and undergarments. It is rare to find organizations like Kakenya's Dream that provide support to girls. We are lucky to be Kakenya Girls High School students because we get sanitary towels, underpants, and other basic needs that make our lives comfortable. Many of us have also benefitted from holiday training, where the organization enlightens us on life skills. Despite society's persistent call for abstinence, we still get cases of pregnancies. The fact is we already know that sex can lead to many consequences, but many of us cannot abstain. So, let's be honest and ask for sex education to protect our lives and our futures.



Boarding mistress Madam Caroline Ntialei distributing sanitary pads to students



Students pose for photos after receiving sanitary pads

Develop a Reading Culture to Succeed



Jeremiah Koros works at Kakenya Girls High School as a security officer. He joined in 2019. He is the most fascinating character in our school, amusing everyone with his comical way of talking. He is an avid reader of novels with an insatiable appetite for watching documentaries and political commentaries on YouTube. He recently sat down for an interview with **Lydia Naserian** and **Mary Mula** where he shared about his life.

Tell us about yourself

I'm an alumnus of Tenwek Boys High School in Bomet County where I did my KCSE in 1990. Thereafter, I taught as an untrained teacher while I applied to join a teachers' training college. My application was unsuccessful. At the time, getting an admission letter to college was hard due to corruption. I did not know anyone who could help me. You can understand my predicament if you read the poem "Harlem" by Langston Hughes. My dream was deferred.

Why do you like to compete with students in English tests?

I wanted to encourage and challenge students to be serious with their studies when I joined them for tests. I competed in an English test with the pioneer class - the 2021 candidates when they were in form two. I emerged the best as per the teacher's ranking. I also sat for English examination with the 2022 candidates when they were in form two and I had one of the best performances. Students asked me my secret and I advised them to read many story books to sharpen their grammar knowledge and creativity in writing.

How do you compensate for your "dream deferred?"

I have vowed to support my children through education. So far, I have a son and daughter in different universities. My daughter is pursuing education, my dream deferred. I have four other children whom I will support to study at the university level.

If you were given a chance to travel back in time, what would you do differently?

I would work harder by reading and consulting teachers. If I got into a school as good as this one, I am sure my performance would make it to the headlines. I hope you take advantage of the opportunity you have here.

Tell us about your favorite novel

My favorite novel is Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe. It is a book that invites discussion on cultural change as a result of the coming of Europeans as colonialists and missionaries. It teaches us that change is inevitable and we must embrace it.

When you are off duty, students have seen you using the internet on your phone. What is it that you get from the digital space?

There is a lot on the internet, but I prefer comical and educative content. I watch documentaries and political commentaries to be up to date with what is happening around the world. My daughter in university is called Basra, a name from a city in Iraq. She was born at the time that there was war in Iraq, an experience I was keenly following.

What advice can you give students, especially girls?

Education empowers. Education liberates. Use your time to equip yourself with knowledge and you will leap toward social, economic, and political freedom. Take advantage of the support you get from Kakenya's Dream and mold yourselves into future leaders.

"I consider all students as my daughters. When I have a chance, I advise them to focus on their studies. I wish they understood how fortunate they are to get support from Kakenya's Dream."

Why the Maasai have a Penchant for the Colour Red

by Joy Sereu



Our fellow students donning the trademark red colours

Red is a trademark colour for the Maasai community in Kenya and Tanzania. It appears in all spheres of the Maasai culture. The Maasai are known to consume blood (red in colour) from cattle. They also add the precious commodity to milk. Maasai also use red ochre. It is more than just a cosmetic or a form of protection from the sun for the Maasai. It is believed to hold mystical powers that protect warriors from harm and gives them strength in battle. The Maasai believe that red ochre is a symbol of fertility and life. It is thought to help and ensure a good harvest and protect the people from illnesses. The red ochre has been used by the Maasai in Kenya and Tanzania for centuries as a way to protect their skin from the harsh African sun and to decorate their bodies.

In the Maasai culture the colour red is associated with strength, courage, and power. When a Maasai man becomes a warrior, he undergoes a special ceremony where he is smeared with the red ochre. This symbolizes his new status as a warrior and his commitment to protect the community. The red ochre is applied to his face, body, and shields. It is also used to decorate his cattle. Look around the community and you will definitely find some shades of red in the clothing the Maa people wear. It is also said that if two Maasai men or women would meet in a restaurant and there is one red mug, they will fight over it. Some exaggerate by saying the oxygen the Maasai breath might be red in colour, only that we cannot see.

Poem: Female Genital Mutilation

by Cynthia

FGM the greater killer
You have ruined the future of a girl-child
You have destroyed their dreams
What a dangerous killer you are.

You have made them to be unworthy
For they have not passed the cut
FGM you are an enemy
What a dangerous killer you are.

Our role models are against you
The alien culture talks evil of you
The authority also condemns you
What a dangerous killer you are.

You have ruined the dreams of a girl-child
You have made them unworthy
That for them to be worthy
They must undergo the ritual
What a dangerous killer you are.



Source: Google Images

The Rich Boy Who Played Poor

By Lydia Naserian



There was an old rich man who had only one son. He had a company where he served as a manager. When the old man's son completed his education, he was yet to be employed and his father decided to retire and leave the manager's position to his son, but first, the son decided to marry. However, he was unable to settle on a girl to marry, claiming that all of them looked beautiful. He decided to go outside the country for some years, then later came back with shaggy hair dressed like a street kid. After he got back, he went around the marketplace for several days but couldn't find anybody speaking to him. Even girls who initially were fighting for him rebuked him. He went to his father's company where some workers poured dirty water on him and others spat on him. Although he experienced this treatment and how the workers looted from his father's company, he maintained his calm. A few days went by and a lady who served as his father's assistant decided to employ him as her driver without any knowledge that he was son to her boss. He woke up very early in the morning and drove the lady to the company and back in the evening.

Book Review

Title: *Blossoms of The Savannah*
Author: Ole Kulet
Publisher: Longhorn
Year: 2008
Pages: 291
Reviewed by: Jane Milanoi



This is a story of Blossoms of the Savannah and is a riveting account of two sisters, Tiayo and Resian, and their family. They are the main characters in the novel. The story is set in Nasila, where there are many cultures which are against the girl child. Some of the archaic cultures are: early marriage, female genital mutilation (FGM), and even forced marriage where girls are forced to marry old men of Nasila. Tiayo was the first born followed by Resian. Their father, Olekaelo, hated Resian because he expected a boy so out of his dislike toward Resian, he denied her a chance to attend Egerton University and pursue her career as a veterinary doctor.

The author presents us with the question of whether one can leave the traditional culture and fight for their rights like what Minik did. As a member of the Maa community who didn't undergo FGM, she represents a rejection of harmful cultural practices despite being insulted and called a wasp. The use of dialogues powerfully brings out the culture whereby Mama Milanoi follows everything that Olekaelo says, even if it is wrong. It is the most painful thing a parent can do to her children, allowing them to be married forcefully. The novel uses very easy language which can be understood by students.

One day, the lady decided to take him to the supermarket and bought him a new suit. The father could no longer bear to see his son pretend to be mad. He told his son that he'd soon pronounce him as the new manager to the company. The day came and the boy woke up early because the assistant told him that the new manager would be revealed and she had to report early to work. The boy did so and immediately returned home, dressed like a manager, and drove his own car with his father driving behind him. They reached the company's assembly ground and his father announced him as the new manager. All the people who hated him and showed him disrespect and those who looted from the company went down on their knees. The assistant was left in shock and the son to the old man who became the new manager promised to marry her because she was the only one who showed him kindness. A few days later, the boy was employed by the government and the lady became a new manager.

Moral Lesson: Never despise anybody you come across



A Lesson from the Four Lepers

By Nancy Nashipai



Image courtesy of Pinterest

2 Kings 7:3-11 tells us a story of four men with leprosy, the most dreaded disease at the time. The Bible tells us that the four were at the city gate and they asked themselves, "Why stay here until we die? If we say, 'We'll go into the city'—the famine is there, and we will die. And if we stay here, we will die. So, let's go over to the camp of the Arameans and surrender. If they spare us, we live; if they kill us, then we die." The holy scriptures tell us that when they took a step of faith and walked into the rivals' camp, they found no one because God had caused the Arameans to hear the sound of chariots and horses of a great army and they fled away. The four lepers found plenty of food, drinks, and treasures. Not only did they enjoy themselves in celebration, but they also took the good news to the royal palace.

By extension, the scripture teaches us the value of faith. It reaches a point in time when one has to reflect on their lives and decide to take a step. You cannot sit in a desperate situation, casting doubts and praying for miracles without taking any action. For example, you may not be good in chemistry. If you keep it to yourself, you are doomed to fail in your examinations. If you speak out and seek help from your subject teacher, who knows? You might learn a trick or two on how to maneuver to a good grade. So, act in faith. Have courage and face the world! May God bless you all.

BIBLE

I read the Bible every day
I want knowledge and skills
I want to make a difference as a Christian
I want to shape the level of my spirituality

But how can I if I don't read the Bible?
How can I if I don't listen to the scripture?
How can I if I don't analyze the Bible?
How can I if I don't practice what I have learnt?

There is fun in the Bible
We sing and pray
There is hard work in the Bible
We read, write, and understand

SHENG PRAYER

by Betty Sempayo

Eeci sagodi rada? Imekuwa siku mob sana. Leo nimekuja tuchapiane manze. Unajua life imekuwa hard sana. Tunajaribu kumock doors na haziopen bana. Manze hakuna wera, hakuna hustle. Jaja cheza kaa wwe na ututoe kwa hii dry spell. Juu we ndo BIG MAN bazuu. Njaa nayo imemulika kumulika. Manze si unajua tumbo ikiitisha imei tisha. Cheza tu kaa wwe!!! Naombea mbogi za kila area nawa kwako juu wee ndo bazenga. Cheza tuu kaa wwe na utuondolee bana. AMINA



Photos from a past prayer day

The Ten Commandments of Education

By Doris Matelong

You should not have any priority before me as long as you are in school.
 You shall not bow down to any laziness for education is the key to your future success.
 Do not use my known for any evil like corruption and theft.
 Observe all class days and keep yourself busy.
 Respect all of your class leaders and all in authority and your days in school will be fantastic.
 Do not murder the teacher's effort.
 Do not use your parent's money on irrelevant things.
 Take consequences for your actions and suffer the punishment.
 Do not engage in exam cheating.
 Do not covet your neighbour's work plan, study method, and time table.

5 Essential Beliefs For High School Students

By Dolly Tracey

Believe in God-Divine connection
 Believe in yourself-You have potential
 Believe in others-Bridge to destiny
 Believe in hard work-Responsibility
 Believe in your school-Leave a legacy

Ladders in Education

By Anne Kim

FORM 1-Foundation
 FORM 2-Floor
 FORM 3-Roofing
 FORM 4-Finishing

The Magic 12

By Brenda and Jane Form 2

Think a little
 Jesus had 12 disciples
 There were 12 tribes of Israel
 There were 12 baskets of food which remained when Jesus fed 5,000 people
 We have 12 hours of reading
 Why can't we score 12 points in an exam?



"Thank you God!" Dr. Kakenya Ntaiya, Founder and President of Kakenya's Dream, joined us in prayers during a thanksgiving service in honour of the 2021 KCSE pioneer class



Dr. Kakenya addresses students, parents, staff, and guests during a thanksgiving service



Reverend James Merinyo, Overseer of Dominion Chapel, Keyian Division, delivers a message during the thanksgiving service



"Talk to me, I'm listening!" Dr. Kakenya lends her ear to a parent during the thanksgiving service



It's this way! A section of students present an item during the thanksgiving service



Guest speaker known for "hitting the nail on the head" delivers his message during the thanksgiving service



Plant a tree and be happy with life! Our school principal, Madam Dorcas Simaloi, sets the pace in "planting happiness" at our school

Random Quotes

by Faith Matelong and Faith Kortom

1. Our lives are driven by the choices we make.
2. Love all, trust a few. Do wrong to none.
3. The greatest obstacle to progress is lack of self-belief.
4. Education is the best provision for the journey to old age.
5. There is no gain without pain.

Our School

By Brenda Chepkemoi

Kakenya Girls is a school that molds girls into ladies. It is a school that believes that education is the apex of vision. It is an institution which has vision to obtain credible, self driven, and dynamic professionals and truly its vision comes to pass each and every year after national examinations. The tremendous improvements on the subjects taught and the mean score produced is really encouraging. Our teachers are beneficiaries of the great work they are instilling to students. Attentiveness and discipline portrayed by students brings about their success. I would preciously thank our school administration and our lovely chief principal mum Madam Dorcas Simaloi for molding us day by day to become ladies of substance. To my fellow students:

- *Education is not preparation for life, but education is life itself.
- *Education is a progressive discovery of our own ignorance.
- *Education is a lifelong opportunity and a long journey that must be completed.
- *Education is a goal that everybody must achieve.

To all students: keep on with good morals and success will be ours to conquer.



Fate and Destiny: Leadership and the Cycle of Life

By Siparo Naserian

In 2008, the late professor George Magoha was the Vice Chancellor at University of Nairobi. Professor Jacob Kaimenyi and professor Mbithi were his deputies. They employed Dr. Fred Matiangi as lecturer while Babu Owino was a student.

In 2013, professor Kaimenyi and Dr. Matiangi were nominated as ministers. Professor Magoha and Mbithi worked under them while Babu Owino was a student leader. In 2016, Dr. Matiangi at the Ministry of Education employed professor Magoha as the Director of the Kenya National Examinations Council. In 2017, Babu Owino became a member of parliament and a member of the education committee. Professor Magoha is nominated Cabinet Secretary but Babu Owino must vet him first in order to be employed.

For sure life is a riddle.



Students following the footsteps of our school principal



Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.

By Naomi Kantai



I was born to rest not to die. I was born a winner not a loser. You are the bearer of an answer to the question that our generation is asking about.

By Mercy Yiamat



Look for three things in a person, that is intelligence, energy, and integrity, if he/she doesn't have the last, then don't even bother with the first two. Circumstances are the rulers of the weak and are instruments for the wise.

By Naiyioma Jackline

If your enemies pour water on you, use it to water the tree of success in your life. If they set fire to you, use it to burn the obstacles in your way. If they throw stones at you, use them to build the foundation of your life. HENCE, hate no situation in your life. Leadership is a privilege to me and I really thank God as it comes from Him. The environment depends on us and we depend on our environment so we have a duty to protect, conserve, and keep it clean and that is what we are doing here at Kakenya Girls. A clean environment leads to good health. A beautiful environment attracts people. Let's try our best to keep the environment clean because that is our duty.

*Wewe ni mrefu hdi bendera inapandishwa kwako.
 *Aty wewe n mblack ukipigwa picha inaandikwa 'He was here.'
 *Nyinyi n wadosi mpaka mnakula miwa n fork.
 *Kwenu nyinyi nwaoga hdi mnaficha gate kwa nyumba.
 *Nyinyi n wadosi hadi kuku wenu mnapeleka nursery.
 *Nyinyi n wadosi hdi chapati mnapika n fair and lovely.
 *Nyinyi n maskini mpaka mnafunga mlango n kipini.
 *Ukona mapua kubwa hdi ukitaka kutoa makamasi unatia na kijiko.

form 4

GEOMATIC ENGINEER

QUIZ: Why are maps like fish
 ANS: Both have scales
 QUIZ: Why do senior military officials like small maps
 ANS: Because they have been generally used

By Purity

A SAY

This life, dear mates, is like a journey that you and I are traveling together. The uncertainty is just like mist in the air. It will clear. This life has many potholes, hills, and valleys, but let us make haste to reach our destination. You only reach your destination after you sweat, and even after reaching there, you continue to travel. As you travel, you don't forget that the suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope will never disappoint us.

By Marion Rottiken

A lady's heart should be deeply stored in Christ so that when a man wants you he may seek Christ first.

By Nolary

"Ujinga ni kusomea 'demonstrative pronouns' kwa English yet it contains 'demon.'"

By Rehema Boke

FLAKES

Have you ever seen an ambulance topping up fuel in a petrol station??? Or is the rumor that the guys say true, and it uses blood to get around?

One God, more than a billion churches and denominations, 4,200 religions all with a span of 6,000 years - all fighting one Satan.

By Fay Naanyu

"Do not pretend to be rich but you are a poor millionaire."
 "Do not pretend to be wise but you are clever fool."
 Pardon me for being so rude, it was not me, it was my food. It just came up to say "hello." Now it is gone down below.

By Yummy Lovian

"Weakness in reality can be destroyed by the power of thinking and doing practice."

Anonymous

The greatest achievements made by highly successful people in the world were once just ideas in their minds.

You can search throughout the entire universe for someone who is more deserving of your love and affection than yourself. Anyone in your life who is doing subtraction is someone you need to instantly subtract from your life.

Je, wajua maziwa ya kuku ni dawa ya wazee wajawazito.
 By Potishoi Dorcas

Ujinga ni kubeba makaa na umevalia T-shirt yenye imeandikwa let's conserve our environment.
 by Lizzy Masoi

Je, wajua warembo wa kakenya girls wamechanuka yini, hadi wanashow mungu atarudi wiki ijayo na ndevu mbili, tenawako na machali wanaitwa sweethearts yani nikumumunywa within dakika moja then utamu kando kilio karibu.

By Mary Naanyu

Ireally prefer using airtel rsn; ukitungia doo kwa mtu wrong. utapata coz huyo hata pata pa kuwithdraw.

MOTHER: My son be careful with these women who walk naked in the streets they are the ones who killed great men in history.

SON: I also want to die as a great man.

By Lizzy Canne



1. Ujinga ni kuubuy kalamu ya mbao kwani iko kwani iko na ink ya strawberry.
2. Ujinga ni Turkana kudonatia kisii chakula.
3. Ujinga ni kununua simcard ya soo kwani iko na ndigits za madem.
4. Ujinga ni kununua ovacado ya mbao kwani kwani iko na soup ndani.
5. Ujinga ni kumkatia dem kwa line ya V.C.T.
By Moseka Emily

*Wewe ni mfupi hdi unafanya karate kwa store.
*Your brother was expelled from heaven for seducing angles.
*You are too tall that people ask for short cuts to reach your head.
*We n mfupi hadi unafanyaia harusu kwa bottle top.
*You give your hen hot water and they lay boiled eggs.
*You are too dirty that the soap you use complains.
By Queen Shash

Kikwai

Hata uwe mfupi mwaka lazima uruke
Hata uwe mjinga blood test utapita
Hata utumie sabuni type zote you can't wash sins
Hata uwe fundi aje huwezi repair breaking news
Hata ule kiapo mara ngapi njaa bado utahisi
By Janet Santiellah

si bure uko na kichwa kubwa hadi unazuili jirani jua
si bure nasikia nyanya yako amezeeka hadi instead aseme kiberiti anasema nyambiliti
By Maggy Sakilei

Ladies if you know your boyfriend can finish 5 loaves of bread and 2 fish then my friend you are dating 5,000 people
By Kantai Nasieku

1. Ati wewe n mfupi hadi unaride juu ya panadol.
2. Wewe n mfala hadi ukitumwa shop kununua cabbage badala ya kusema nisaidie cabbage anasema unusaidie ile kitu imekunja ngumu kwa shamba.
3. Nyanyako amezeeka hadi anakojoa super glue.
4. Babako anameno refu refu hadi aki sneeze anajituma kifua.
5. Ukona kichwa ndogo hdi ukisimama mbele y ubao wanafunzi wanadhania n fullstop.
By Edinah Sapato

Manze siku moja ati nilivisit zambia then kufika kwa gate niliambiwa nafaa kufanyiwa interview then during the interview niliulizwa atyb who is the president of Kenya, nikajibu n Kenyatta. Then what do you think is the president here in Zambia. The very confidently nikajibu ety n [ZAMBIATATAA]
By Clemencia

Mchongoano by Clemecia

1. Naskia uko mlafi hadi unaonja maji ya ugali.
2. Nyanyako meno imeoza hadi akidrink milk anatema chai.
3. Nyanyako ni kibogoyo lakini bado analia bei ya colgate imepanda.

1. Leo niliota eti nimeenda USA next time nalala na bag ndo nikiota niende kabisa nisirudi
JUST A JOKE
Some people don't know how to spell the word "school". They place the second 'o' before the first 'o.'
By Betty

Teacher: Tunga sentesi ukitumia neon sukari.
Juma: Nilikunywa chai jana jioni.
Teacher: Neno sukari iko wapi?
Juma: si sukari iko ndani ya chai.
By Kipintoi Elizabeth

2. Gari yenu ni mpya hadi ikiwaona madem inasag number plates
By Shaani Purity

UJINGA NI
Kuweka sura ya kazi na uko jobless
Kupeleka phone kwa dentist inglese mouthpiece.
Kuvaa nguo mpya na mwili imerust.
By Kankano Naserian

Nyanya yako ni kibogoyo na yet analia bei ya colgate imepanda sio bure macho yako imeenda ndani hdi ukilia machozi inaenda kisogo nyanya ko imeoza hdi ukinywa maziwa anatema chai umekonda hdi kuinama namwona manager akiota jua
Sointavivian

SOME TIP WORDS

P-Pray
U-Until
S-Something
H-Happens

C-Children
O-Of
C-God
A-Are
C-Coming
O-On
L-Like
A-Angels

By Nolari Nelly

OTI: Class! teacher amesema kila mtu alipie trip.
BRAYO: Ati umesemaje?
OTI: Teacher anadai kila mtu alipie trip ya kesho.
BRAYOU zuri mimi si mtu, mimi ni mwanafunzi.
By Narasha

Human beings are like rubber bands. We are formed to stretch but it all depends on the influence of our friends and the strength of our minds.

Our attitude also determines how we handle challenges.
Challenges make us grow and become mature only if we remain positive.
Our attitude determines the outcome of what we do, right from the beginning.

M.C GIRL OF [substance and dignity]

PATIENT: Doctor! I have a serious problem. I can never remember what I just said.
DOCTOR: When did you notice this problem?
PATIENT: What problem?

QUIZ: What kind of tree grows in your hands
ANS: A palm tree
By Narasha

CHEKI RISTO KAA HII MUNGU NIPE CHALI
Asikae nguvu kaa...phyc
Asini changanye kama...histo
Nipende kama..C.R.E
Apendale na wengi kama...kiswa
Usiniseme kama ..chem
Ani Heshimu kama...mao
By Nolari Nelly

1. My parents always encouraged me to follow my dreams, but I wonder why they keep complaining that I sleep a lot.
2. A thief was caught stealing and his hands were painted blue. When he was asked why, he confessed that he didn't want to be caught red-handed.
3. For God so loved Africans that he gave them their black color that whoever bleaches will never turn brown but have everlasting pimples?!!!!!!!!!!!!
4. Mpanda ngazi may be hapendi lift.
5. Aliyejuu labda ameenda majuu.
6. Asiyefunzwa na mamaye hufunzwa na free education.
7. Mchagua jembe lbda hana tractor.
8. Mwenda tenzi na omo labda hapendio aerial.
9. Mpanda ngazi ni mjinga .angepanda mahindi.
10. Asiyefunzwa na mamake .mamake si mwalimu.
11. Kuku wangu hutagia mibani
JIBU:Aiiiiiiiiiii ...kwani hadugwiiii!!!!!!!
By Popkid,sanaullahBenaullah & Anne Kim

UJINGA NI.....
Kumwambia kiwete kanyagia hiyo story.
Kumwambia watchman have nice dreams.
Kubuy kiberiti alafu unatest kama zinawaka zote.
Kutestia kisu kwa mwili wako kama imetia makali.
Kuosha handkerchief ya 20 bob na one bar of geisha.
By Cynthia MC The Girl

1. Student- (on phone) My daughter has a bad cold and won't be able to come to school today. Principal-Who am I talking to please?
Student- This is my father speaking.
2. Two people were counting money after fundraising when one of them suddenly shouted "A small leak will sink a great ship." I gave a thousand shilling note and I can't see.



It's just a harmless slithery reptile! Pauline gathered her courage and held a snake at a park during an academic trip as others watched from a safe distance

A long time ago there lived a man who had three sons named Trouble, Shut-up, and Manner. One day as they were playing away from home, Trouble suddenly got lost, so Manner and Shut-up decided to go and report the matter to the police station. When they reached the gate, Manner remained and Shut-up went in. The policeman called him, 'Shut-up!' He answered.

The police asked him if he really had Manner. He replied saying Manner was with him at the gate. The police was annoyed and asked him what he was looking for. Shut-up answered, 'I am looking for Trouble.' The policeman kicked him out and sent him away.

By Purity Nasieku

Many people need to go over many things in their lives in order to achieve their goals. One year of doing the right thing is more beneficial than spending forty years doing what you were not created for.

By Nolary

Hello my fellows you know that you are not here by accident, you are in this school to fulfill a purpose and play your role. Think about a jigsaw puzzle - it is not complete until all its parts fit into each other perfectly to make one beautiful pattern. You are part of a large jigsaw puzzle in which all human beings play their role and fit perfectly to form one beautiful pattern. No matter what challenges you face today - whether they are family or academic, the world is not complete without you.

By Ipanoi Lilian

Ati uko na mdomo biggy hadi ungekuwa mwimbaji ungetoa collabo pekee yako.
Doggy yenu imebeat hadi ikiback lazima ijishikilie kwa ukuta.
Kwenu ni ocha sana hadi sms ikifika unaipanguza vumbi kwanza.
Wewe ni mchafu hadi nzi zinakuita my favourite.
Naskia uko na kalio ngumu hadi ukikalia ugandamia inapastuka.
Wewe ni mnene hadi ukivaa nguo ya yellow watoto hudhani ni school bus.

By Fay Kipiko

FUN SPOT

FATHER: Hey, young man whom will you marry?
SON: Your mother.
FATHER: Ahaaaah, why?
SON: Because you married my mother.
FATHER: I suggest you are mad.
SON: Mmmh, yeah coz I'm madly in love with her.

By Ivine Chemutai

VITANZA NDIMI

Achoka alichoka kwa kukata kuni kwa shoka butu

By Lydia Antony



"Mambo imechemuka!" The science laboratory can get really hot. There's the elusive search for the value of x that can tempt you to sit in funny positions, but we are lucky to have a team of good teachers like Madam Joan Cherono who come to our aid. Then we have our annual election of student leaders with exciting moments like when we had the "momentarily at rest" hit maker, Mr. Miruka as one of our Chebukati bila kipara.



Uncle Reuben akicheza kama yeye as fire takes pleasure in what it consumes

RECIPE FOR COOKIES

By Jane Wambui

Ingredients

- 4 cups of self-rising flour
- 2 cups of margarine
- 2 cups of sugar
- 2 tablespoons of milk or water

Methods

1. Beat the eggs into a cup. Add the milk or water.
2. Sift sugar, flour, and salt together.
3. Rub the margarine into the mixture prepared in 2 above.
4. Add the eggs and milk mixture to the flour mixture and knead into a dough.
5. Roll the dough onto the pastry board.
6. Cut the dough into the desired shape of the cookies.
7. Place the cookies onto the prepared baking tin.
8. Place the baking in the oven on the upper shelf and bake at 90 degrees.
9. Remove from the oven after 15 minutes and place on a cooking rack.
10. Serve when cool with tea or juice.



Matty at work in the school kitchen



Victor and Anco in action at the school kitchen



Students wash their utensils, thanks to the plentiful water in our school. Meanwhile, other girls hurry to devour their sumptuous meal



'Supa loaf' smile by one of our own after picking loaves of bread for breakfast



Gardening



From planting, weeding, pest and disease control, harvesting, and cooking to eating, we have all it takes

Travelogue



We had exciting moments during a field visit to Nairobi, Nakuru, and Maasai Mara

Travelogue



We had exciting moments during a field visit to Nairobi, Nakuru, and Maasai Mara

Environment



Junior secondary students interact with Madam Bibiana Chimoili during an outdoor lesson



Earlier this year, junior secondary students conducted an air monitoring exercise around the school. The project was conducted in partnership with University of Pittsburgh. The study involved finding out the level of pollution in different spaces, including classrooms, kitchen, open field, dormitory, and construction sites. From the study, students understood the varying levels of pollution and how human activities contribute to environmental degradation. The study was overseen by teacher David Murkuk

Environment



Environmental conservation is a crucial exercise we promote. We have been planting trees around the school and at the clinic. Last year, we had Kenya's Deputy Chief Justice, Honorable Philomena Mwilu, gracing the Day of the African Child event at our sister school, KCE I, where she planted a tree to mark the importance of protecting the environment. We follow her footsteps and we believe contribution will add to the overall call for increasing Kenya's forest cover

We Serve a Living God



Prayers and servitude to God has sustained us. That's why we held prayers in the past, and we have no plans to slow down. We get emotional in our conversations with God. We laugh. We cry. We invite servants of God to minister to us. Praise be to God!

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sports



When it comes to outdoor games, we also shine. We have the best teams to represent us in competitions with other schools. We are grateful to all those who have been representing us in athletics and ball games

sports



For every win, we celebrate. We were privileged to have Dr. Kakenya in school when we arrived from Shankoe Secondary School where we had emerged victorious in several events. Dr. Kakenya heartily welcomed us back to campus and joined our celebration

Science Exhibitions



Leave alone the cliché "Mwalimu wa Math hapa ni wapi?" Our math teacher Mr. Nyambok Victor has been taking us places with projects. We have had our representatives at the national levels where they presented viable projects before the international world. Madam Victoria Kaelo has also been instrumental in our journey. A big shoutout to the scientists at Kakenya Girls High School!

In Other News



From "Ringa mwenzangu, ringa" to emotional farewells and reunions, recitation of poems and photo sessions with our role models, Kakenya Girls High School gives you a perfect place to enjoy studying

In Other News



Captions:

Photo 1- The face behind the beautiful flower beds and live fence at our school. Big respects to Sammy Mauti!

Photo 2- A glimpse of part of our school

Photo 3- Students in the assembly

Photo 4- Students showcasing "movement by running" style of the school

Photo 5- Elsie at the library reception being attended by librarian, Loice Mushi

Photo 6- From left: Naomi, Sharon, and Nancy pose for a photo outside the library

Photo 7- Director of Programs, Daniel Korinko (left) with a team from Eriks Development Partner when they visited our school. The organization supported the publication of this edition of the magazine. A big thank you to you!



**Madam Dorcas Simaloi,
Principal
Teaches CRE & History**

"Successful students take responsibility for themselves and their actions."



**Mr. Victor Nyambok,
Deputy Principal,
Teaches Mathematics & Business Studies**

"The expectations of life depend upon diligence; the mechanic that would perfect his work must first sharpen his tools. Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other. Prepare the way Messiah is coming (Hebrews 12:14)."

**Mr. Benson Rono,
Director of Studies
Teaches Biology &
Chemistry**



"Trust your mind and your instincts."



**Madam Caroline Ntialei,
Boarding Mistress
Teaches Kiswahili & History**

"Education is the only road to success, the top of one mountain is the bottom of the next, so keep climbing. Kakenya Girls we are champs!"

**Madam Bibiana Chimoli
HOD Humanities Teaches
Kiswahili & Geography**



"Just like eagles, we are unique, we fly high, we avoid obstacles, and aim where no one can reach. Kakenya Girls is a real description of this."



**Madam Victoria Kaelo,
teaches Computer &
Mathematics**

"Ambition is the path to success; persistence is the vehicle you arrive in."

**Mr. Hillary Tesot
Teaches Physics &
Mathematics**



"Forget all the reasons it won't work and believe in the one reason that it will. Self confidence is the most attractive quality a person can have."



**Madam Joan Cherono
Assistant Boarding Mistress
Teaches Physics &
Mathematics**

"Teachers can open the door but you must enter it by yourself."



Mr. Stewart Austine Otieno
HOD Languages
Teaches English & Literature

"Champions are those who believe in themselves. Strive to be a champion by constantly improving yourself and believing in your capabilities. The biggest room in the world is that of improvement."



Mr. David Murkuk
HOD Sciences

"It's true that everything is possible once you believe in it and you strive at achieving it."



Madam Kirui Sheila
Head of Games
Teaches English & CRE

"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today. Work hard and smart."



Mr. Cyrene Musango
HOD Technical &
Applied Sciences
Christian Union
Patron

"Life is God's novel. Let Him write it."



Ishmael Ledama Tome
Security Officer

"Work hard in school to become a better person in the future."



Madam Joyce Kilusu
Teaches CRE & Kiswahili

"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you."



Moses Saiyua
Lab Technician

"To succeed, you have to have plans. Organize yourself toward a goal and stay focused."



Ms. Loice Musheni
Librarian

"Take advantage of opportunities presented to you. Take advantage of the support you receive from Kakenya's Dream."

ATA GLANCE...



We understand our teachers and other staff were trained on child protection, courtesy of Kakenya's Dream. The quest for knowledge has no limits

