



Beausang Bulletin

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School Motto: CARPE DIEM

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Reflection

"Life is too short to think small!"

Success always starts with a dream that may seem impossible, but when the dream is pursued and worked on, it gradually, over time, becomes a reality. I never realized at the start of this year what we, as a school, how much we could grow, but with the support and encouragement of many in the community, 2009 has been a success.

At this stage in the history of the school, I am very pleased and grateful for our achievements so far. Our dream is becoming a reality because we have remained committed to our ambition, and have refused to allow disappointments get the upper hand.

We, the school community – the Leadership Team, teaching and non – teaching staff, students, families and our supporters have achieved a great deal in 2009.

Visitors – We have been fortunate to welcome this year a record number of visitors and friends, both internationally and locally including:

- Edmund Rice Australian schools – Aquinas College, Perth; St. Lawrence's, Brisbane; St. Joseph's, Geelong; St. Bernard's, Essendon and St. Kevin's, Melbourne.
- Oceania Province Foundation members
- Iona College (university), New York, USA
- Mercy Secondary School, Mounthawk and St. Fintan's Christian Brother High School, Doon; Ireland
- Edmund Rice Network Immersion group – Australia
- African Province Leadership Team, Lusaka, Zambia
- International Karibu group – from Ireland, Britain, India, Australia, United States
- Rotary – clubs from Australia, USA and Karen, Nairobi.
- Italian sponsors
- Individual friends – Eddie Sheehy (Ireland) and Julia Douglas (England)



Nursery kids queuing for lunch

- Local supporters such as Bishop Cornelius (Bishop of Ngong); Bishop Harrington (Bishop of Lodwar); KCB bank and members of the East African Christian brothers District Leadership Team.
- Peter Hogan chairman of one of Bro Beausang School's St. Bernard's College Essendon Victoria Melbourne Australia.

We thank all for their support and continuing encouragement of what we are trying to achieve at Br. Beausang.

Appreciation – I would like to thank all staff members for their work this year. I would like to give a special thanks to the Parish and members of the Parish Council who have been very supportive of the school, particularly in assisting our re-location of the upper primary classes during the August break. The Dispensary continues to provide an invaluable service for the students and staff as does the Counseling Centre. Thank you also to the Daughters of St. Joseph sisters for allowing their postulants to assist in some of our primary school programs.

Our thanks also go the East African District Leadership Team which commissioned a thorough review of the school in early Term 1. The District also generously sponsored staff in a number of key seminars on child protection and associated issues.

Finally thank you to our main sponsors – Cross International, Oceania Province Foundation and Misien Cara – for providing opportunities for some many young people in the Embulbul area.

I would like to thank you all again and wish all our families, friends, and supporters a blessed Christmas, a safe holiday and a good 2010.

"Eyes that look are common, eyes that see are rare. And you can never see the sunrise from the west. The choice is up to you."

Br. Francis Otieno cfc
Principal



Observing hygiene– washing hands before meals

From the Deputy Principal (Curriculum and Staff Development)

The school motto is 'Carpe Diem' which is Latin, meaning seize the day. What does this mean for students at Br. Beausang Catholic Education Centre? At the farewell Mass for the 2009 Form 4 students held just prior to their exams, I spoke how it was our hope as a school, that we have given our young men and women the confidence and skills to do just that – seize the day; make the most of the opportunities and chances that come along, and importantly, to believe in themselves as being able to make a difference to their own lives, to those of their families and to the community.

For all our other students it is also about making an honest effort in everything they do at school – whether it is in their academic studies; in their relationships with their classmates and staff or as a member of a sporting team or club. For this to be a reality will require courage, determination and patience, from not only the students but also from those who are trying to encourage and assist them – staff and parents.

As I reflect upon the year and all the many things that happen in the school, I believe that the sense of community and openness that exists at Br. Beausang is one of the strengths of the school. This can be attributed to the people who make up the school community, the students, staff and families. I do not believe it is mere coincidence that every group of visitors that has spent time at Brother Beausang during 2009 has commented on the warmth, friendliness and spirit that exists in the school. Often this may be seen as nothing too special by those who experience it on a daily basis, and there is a danger we can take it for granted. It sometimes takes our visitors who come and spend time with us, to remind us how special a place Brother Beausang is.

As I have reported in the two previous editions of this year's Beausang Bulletin, there has considerable activity throughout the year in the area of curriculum and staff development. Hopefully this will allow us to enter 2010 well placed to continue improving the learning opportunities for our students.

The Resource block comprising the McGarry Library, science and computing rooms has been a great boost to the teaching and learning program for both students and staff and I believe we will begin to see the benefits of having these excellent facilities start to show over the next few years in how our students improve in these subjects.

One area we are currently looking out is to how best support our students in Form Four and Class Eight who have the added pressure of national exams to cope with at the end of each year. Thus, with this in my mind, the 2010 Form Four students will commence the school year a day earlier than the rest of the secondary school to have a Form Four Preparation Day. Topics such as time management; study skills; how to cope with stress and keeping a balance between school, home and friends will be covered. Another new initiative for the secondary school will be changing the current assessment and reporting system which is based only on exam and CAT results, to what I believe is a more just and accurate reflection of a student's effort, by including a mark for class work and also at least one major assignment.

Finally I would like to publically acknowledge the work of all the teachers during 2009. They have been very supportive of the initiatives commenced this year and continue to work at all times with the best interests of the students as their focus. Thank you also to the Heads of Department – Sella Bundi, Peter Kihoria, Henry Kiminywi and Samwel Omoro for their leadership, advice and support.

Best wishes to all students and families for Christmas and the New Year.

Peter Shanahan
Deputy Principal



Primary school students cleaning their classes

From the Pastoral Care Department

It has been one year since the pastoral office started its operations. It has been undertaking various activities in the school such as the Child protection program, home visitations and promoting the legal aspects of child protection.

We seek to advocate for child rights because the school's local community is a slum locality where we have many OVC (Orphaned and Vulnerable Children). Due to the fact that we are still at the initial stages, we have faced several challenges such as an uninformed population on child rights, language barrier, poverty and funding to help us handle the cases we are encountering. Despite these challenges the department is putting on courageous face to deal with what we can. The department is grateful to the school administration and our visitors for the support they have given to us. The hopes of many students in Brother Beausang will be restored; their faces are growing brighter each passing day as we try hard to ease their problems so that their education level can rise and shine.

Sister Aster
Pastoral Care

From the Development Office

It is with great pleasure that I share with you this edition of the Beausang Bulletin. The 2009 school year has come to an end with our students in primary school sitting for their K.C.P.E examinations and secondary students sitting for their K.C.S.E examinations. We hope this year the candidates will perform even better than the previous years.

We have accomplished quite a number of projects this year.

The renovation of the old secondary school was very successful and I wish to thank all of our staff who were involved in this project. The classes are now used by classes 6,7 and 8. There are 2 remedial rooms and 1 staff room. I wish to thank in a special way the St. Bernard's Essendon immersion group led by Bruce Wallace for facilitating the renovations.

We have successfully completed the building of emergency boys toilets that includes 3 pit latrines and a urinal. This need arose after difficulties with the current sewage treatment plant which has not been functioning properly however things have improved and I must confirm that the system is now working well.

I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year for 2010.

Lenny Limion
Development Officer

From the Head Teacher—Primary campus

Woo. We have come to the end of the year 2009. We thank God for His great care throughout this year. During the year we had our successes and challenges. We thank God because our school is growing everyday. Congratulations to our administrators.

On behalf of the Bro Beausang primary community, I take this opportunity to thank our esteemed executive, teachers, mothers in the kitchen, parents, guardians, sponsors and all people of good will who have supported the school. May our good Lord bless you abundantly. We would like to extend our appreciation to our friends from Canada (Jules, his wife Sarah, Carmel,) who visited us during the year. Their donations helped in learning situations and also in games. We would like to pass on our sincere thanks for their co-operation which has helped greatly. To our dear 'Divas' ladies, on behalf of classes 6,7 and 8 girls we are very grateful for your donations of sanitary pads. They are a great help in the day to day life to our girls. We say a BIG thank you to all of you. We would like to extend our appreciation to our dear mother, Nancy Mwangi, who always brings them to school.

I would also like to thank our development team for the tireless efforts they made during the August holiday in the renovation of our old secondary school. To make our relocation of Classes 6,7, and 8 a success. Currently our pupils are enjoying the spacious classes in our new campus. They will also sit for their KCPE in the new campus for the first time.

Recently we had a group of Irish friends from Doon CBS Limemck, who took class 8 for an outing. On behalf of our pupils we are very grateful for their time with us and also their funding of that outing. May God bless all of them.

I wish you a memorable Christmas and a prosperous 2010.

Mrs. Eva Njagi:



Mothers preparing lunch for students



Primary students being served lunch

2010 council members

The election of a new Student Council was akin to the national elections we have in the country after every five years. However, unlike the national elections, it was very peaceful; fair and transparent; including transparent ballot boxes! All the contesting candidates for the various posts had a week to sell themselves to the voters. During an impromptu visit to one class, I chanced into one of the aspirants being taken to task. "How is your captaincy going to help us improve on our academics," "We need library hours to be extended. How are you going to make us realize that?" Such like questions are clear signs that our students are getting serious in their studies. The homeroom teachers and the outgoing council members did a superb job coordinating the elections at class level. After voting, counting was carried out openly in front of the whole class, results recorded then sent to the communication centre. This was based in the Kevin McGarry Resource Centre. It was here at the Resource Centre that final tallying process took place before official announcement of the winners. The tallying went well, courtesy of Madam Gladys, one of our longest serving Mathematics teachers, and the outgoing council members. The most closely contested positions were that of the two captains: the Headboy won by 7 votes while the Headgirl defeated her opponent by 1 vote.

I wish to congratulate all the newly elected student leaders on their success. This is a golden opportunity for them to serve others selflessly and put into good use their leadership skills for the good of the school and the society. The campaigns and the elections are over. Let us therefore begin to WALK THE TALK –

Below is the list of the student council members for 2010.

School Captains

- Kelvin Odhiambo 4R
- Ruth Kamau 4R

Assistant Captains

- Jacob Kalula 3P
- Rose Wanjiku 2R

Entertainment

- Felix Limion 3R

Sports Captain

- Cyrus Gitau 4P

Assistant Sports Captain

- John Naran

Journalism

- James Muli 3P

Dining Hall Captain

- Samuel Nyoro 4R

Assistant Dining Hall captain

- Martin Muindi 3P

Counselling Coordinator

- Sheila Nduta 4R

Computer Laboratory

- Erick Owiyo

Johnfisher M. Ondigo
Deputy Head teacher.



A word from the incoming Head Girl

With this privileged opportunity I would like to express my gratitude to both the school staff and the student body at large. I appreciate that the students elected me as a school leader and the administration as a whole for granting me this opportunity to serve my colleagues and I believe that

we can seize the opportunity and prosper in our goals. As the school has been progressing so its my hope that we will continue on with this trend, working hand in hand to help each other. To my fellow students its our obligation to maintain discipline and cooperation so as to reach the expected level of integrity in future. Therefore its my prayer that we cooperate for the betterment of Beausang family so we will become a n even learning institution.

I wish you all a nice holiday and a happy new year 2010

Ruth Kamau 4R(Head Girl 2010)

A word from the incoming Head Boy

I take this opportunity to thank God for being with us this term and year. I also extend my gratitude to all teachers for they have unrelentingly instilled the best knowledge and skills in students to help them in the future. I acknowledge the cooperation the students have put in place the whole of the term. Thank you all.

My fellow students, as we break for our December holidays I wish to urge you to maintain high levels of discipline. Remember you are the ambassadors of the school. Choose wisely people you befriend when you go for holiday, make sure you interact with people who harbor positive ideas. Be the custodian of your decisions do not let anyone to negatively monopolize the choices you make. Develop a high self esteem, this will help you take charge and believe in yourself. Always seek God's guidance before you indulge in any activity. Let God take charge in anything you do.

When school reopens next year we shall work together with the administration, the students and all staff with a lot of cooperation so that we can forge ahead to reach our ultimate goals.

I wish you all the best during the holiday. Have a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year 2010.

Kelvin Ogutu 4R (Head Boy 2010)



The Peace and Justice club



Members of the Justice and Peace Club planting trees in the secondary school.

The club has grown in leaps and bounds this past year. The JPC is now included in the School Council, has increased members. We have been trying to create a habitable environment for the future by planting trees and cleaning rivers. We have also visited children homes to try to give the children hope and courage.

It is our dream as we enter next year that every child or student will know her rights and create the environment suitable for a child and student alike.

We would like to appreciate our patron and the assistant patron ad also the outgoing council member James Lemashon.

We welcome the new officials and acknowledge the administration and the school community for their support.

**Samuel Waweru (3p)
Organizing secretary**



Beausang students Yvone Murugi, Fracia Wanja and Christabel Shilibwa sharing different life experiences with St. Fintans CBS Ireland Immersion group.

Important Dates 2010

Term 1

- Administration/Leadership Day: 4th January
- Staff Day : 5th January
- Form 4 Orientation Day: 6th January
- Primary Opens: 6th January
- Form 2 and 3 commence: 7th January
- Mid term break 19 February
- Closing day 1st April
- Easter break 2nd - 5th April
- Staff Seminar 26th April—29th April

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Announcement

- Form 4 exam fees (Ksh. 4050—Ksh. 4250, depending on the number of subjects studied) must be paid before end of January 2010.
- These fees must be paid by the candidate. They are NOT paid by either the sponsor or the school unless special arrangements are made.
- Form 4 2009— University applicants must pay the application fee (Ksh 3000) by December 10 2009. Please see the Deputy Principal Curriculum

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Thanks to [St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace](http://smeagol.terrace.qld.edu.au/beausang/Pages/mission.html), Australia who are hosting our webpage and this edition of the Beausang Bulletin can be viewed under the following link - <http://smeagol.terrace.qld.edu.au/beausang/Pages/mission.html>