

# Thinkers Doers Leaders

M-PESA  
FOUNDATION  
ACADEMY

M-PESA Foundation Academy Magazine Issue 3 April 2017



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**Family**  
*Is The Centre Of*  
**Life's Meaning**



## A WORD FROM THE CEO



Les Baillie  
CEO

It is always a pleasure to share through the magazine platform all that the academy has managed to achieve through this exciting journey that has seen one year bow out and

the beginning of yet another. Throughout this time the academy has grown in many aspects from the increase in numbers of staff as well as the addition of one hundred and ninety-four more form one students rounding up our student body to two hundred and ninety. We have also gained new partnerships with the NIC Bank sponsoring five students with albinism into our academy. The year that is now past had its challenges and hurdles but through team spirit and the upholding of our CLAIRE values, we have moved forward and continue to provide quality world class education to our cohort of young and enthusiastic students. Our biggest desire and aim is to produce after four years the next generation of transformational leaders for Africa.

At the End of 2016 we saw the completion of two new dormitories, that are now hosting the increased number of students. During the first term of 2017, we took possession of one teaching block with 7 classrooms and 3 laboratories and the double story teaching block with 15 classrooms, the home science and computer labs as well as the art room. We have also been able to bring on board a director of teaching and learning, Stephen Walker, and a student life manager now charged with ensuring that the life of the student within the academy is as comfortable

as possible. We have also added nine new teachers to ensure that the student teacher ratio is sufficient enough to provide quality academic education to the students. Our Resource center is almost complete and we have already brought on board a learning resource coordinator who is currently being aided by volunteer consultants from Canada in establishing a world-class library.

This term has seen great achievement in various areas with students participating for the first time in Sub-County competitions in areas such as sports, science, and drama. Our football teams participated in the Thika West Sub-County games where our girls emerged champions and will be progressing to county zonal in May next term. The students also participated in the Kenya Science and Engineering fair where they showcased 13 scientific projects, five emerged at top positions but were eliminated at the county level. In athletics, four of our students represented the academy in the cross county competitions, while nine will be participating in the County athletics championship. The athletics team will also be participating in the Lewa Marathon in May next term.

Being a first of its kind for an academic institution the Academy has also managed to start a debit card project in conjunction with the Standard Chartered Bank. These cards will provide the students with the necessary financial skills they need as we shape them into Entrepreneurs.

We have also gained new sponsors and mentors from members of Safaricom Limited and this will go a long way in providing the mentorship and inspiration that our young learners need to be successful.

I invite you to delve into the exciting articles in this magazine as the students narrate tales of their experiences during this Term.



**M-PESA  
FOUNDATION  
ACADEMY**

*Our Mission*

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*Our Vision*

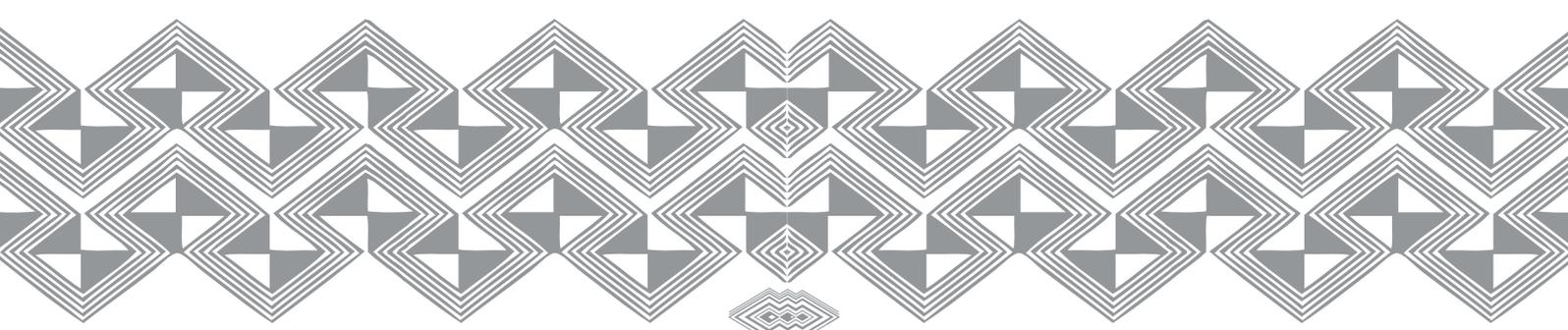
## **VISION**

To develop transformational leaders through innovative approaches to education.

## **MISSION**

To be a leadership development institution for high school students providing high quality education to nurture the next generation of transformational leaders.

The M-PESA Foundation Academy is a state of the art co-educational and residential high school providing world class Kenyan Education that is based on the 8-4-4 education system.





## EDITORIAL

Writing the termly magazine is always an exciting undertaking as it is always great to capture the impact that the Academy activities have had on the students from their own perspective. When they participate in the writing of articles for this magazine, one can clearly see that their lives are indeed being changed by the events happening in the academy and they are being shaped and transformed into excellent leaders who are bold, curious, innovative and responsible.

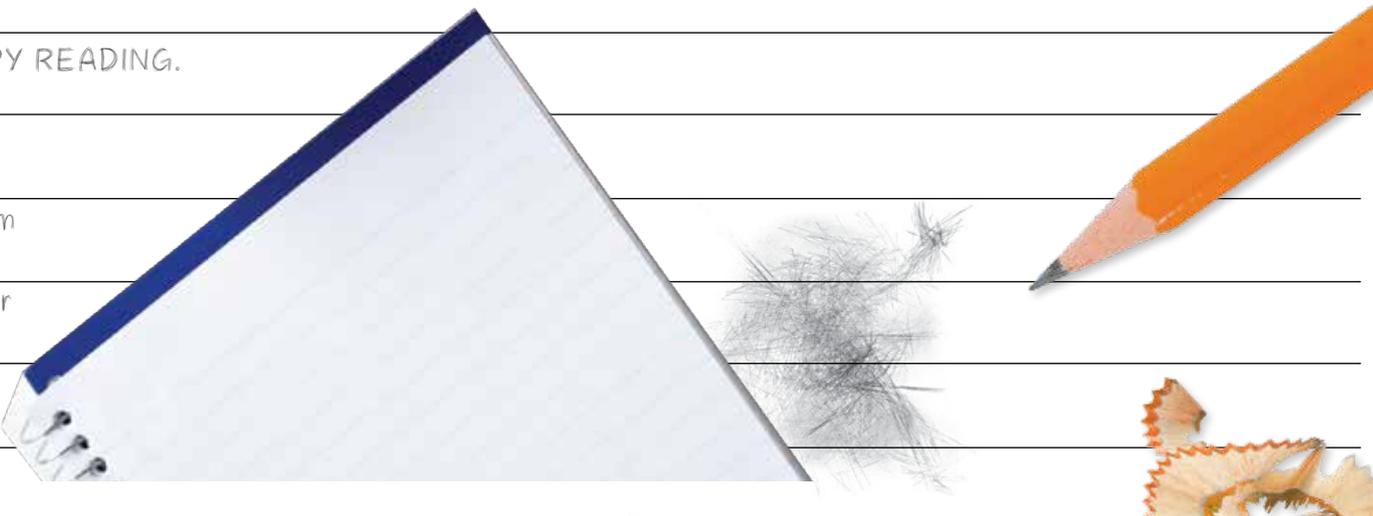
The school magazine has always provided a platform for nurturing students writing skills as well as expressing their views on their experiences within the Academy. This term, the compiling of this magazine has been done with the help of the Academy's Journalism club who have also been key in taking photographs of the events as they happen.

The eagerness of the recently admitted form ones to express their views is evident in that they have contributed to more than half of the articles in this issue. As we progress, this platform can only get more refined and excellent as the young minds of the academy continue to grow.

HAPPY READING.

Miriam

Editor





## PARADIGM SHIFT *By Meshack Odipo Okumu*

**A** paradigm shift is a change in the way that we perceive an issue, it is our behaviour and attitude, in this case towards agriculture. Most people believe that agriculture can only be practiced in a place where there is plenty of rainfall, large pieces of land and a large amount of capital which is false. This small challenges can be overcome by positive thinking. Agriculture is the first opportunity we have to generate income and improve our living standards.

nation.

If we can imitate what is happening in countries such as Israel, China, Indonesia and Thailand, we shall no longer be in the cyclic situation where there is always a food shortage in parts of our nation.

If you read the history of Israel you find that they import soil using ships and aeroplanes in order to carry out agriculture and yet our country has enough arable land that can be utilised

*Member of Agriculture Club*



It is my desire to see all people practicing agriculture with whatever opportunities available, waiting for factors such as land, capital and labour would only be delaying an opportunity. For example, did you know that you can plant your green vegetables in a sisal sack that is filled with soil just outside your kitchen if you do not have space for a kitchen garden? Agriculture is the backbone of an economy, we need to take agriculture more seriously, no nation can progress positively in development with a hungry workforce, agriculture therefore can help improve every aspect of our

to cultivate food for the entire Kenyan population. We have a lot of opportunities but we do not want to utilise them, agriculture can be a source of income, let us all practice it in whatever capacity we can, do not keep quiet with ideas share it with others because two heads are better than one.

In the academy, most of the food we eat is cultivated in our own farm. We grow vegetables such as Kales, spinach, tomatoes, onions and we also keep broilers and layers. This has helped me learn a lot about agriculture. Fruits

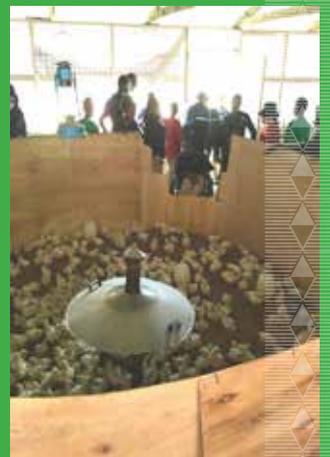


*Member of Agriculture Club*

like apple, pawpaw, watermelon and mangoes are scarce in our country and I would like to grow these and many more crops that we have to import so that we do not have to take money outside our country for the same.

Agriculture is important, I would advocate for at least a third of our nations population to venture into this pivotal field, and for the government to

set up policies on reserving agricultural lands so that not all land can be turned into construction sites.



# Inspirational Quotes

by Virginia Njoki



Formal education will make you a leaver, self education will make you a fortune  
He who asks a questions seems a fool but he who does not remains a fool forever  
Imagination is better than knowledge for knowledge is limited but imagination encircles the world.

The task of a modern educators is not to cut down jungles of ignorance but to irrigate the deserts of our minds.

Never stop learning because life will never stop teaching.

If you want to fly, you must let go of all the things that anchor you down.





## CELEBRATING OUR FIRST ANNIVERSARY

by *Elvis Nyangara*

**F**ebruary twenty-third was certainly a day that I would forever remember. Having reported a week before, my mind was still trying to grasp the beauty that is M-Pesa Foundation Academy. The day began with morning lessons, but the atmosphere of the event to come could not be hid. Even in class, finding concentration was not easy. The last hour to lunch seemed to mockingly crawl by, I stared at the clock with apprehension, waiting for the minutes to trickle by, I knew even the snail paced motion of the minute hand would not hold the celebrations that were ahead. At one o'clock, the whole academy, staff and students alike gathered at the dining hall for a lunch that was also graced by some of the days invited guests. Afterwards, we all proceeded to the sports hall for the celebrations to begin. Ms. Elishiba (student life manager) was the MC of the days programme and she couldn't have done a more exceptional job. We begun with a word of prayer which was followed by entertainment from the students; a Giriama Dance, a dramatised shahiri and another modern dance among others graced the stage enticing our

eyes with beautiful enactments.

The speeches from the staff, students, CEO, Les Baillie, Brenda Mbaathi our BOG member as well as from Mrs. Margaret Wanjohi (former Starehe Girls director) mapped the years journey of the academy vividly in my mind, making me feel as though I had been part of it all the while. Cake cutting marked the highlight of the days event, the beautifully decorated cake seemed big enough to last forever, I could feel my taste buds anxiously awaiting the moment when I would be served and enjoy it. Rahmate, a student at the academy led in the cake cutting song as the CEO, invited guests, Ms. Regina Olado (Senior Teacher - Science Department) as well as home science students all helped in cutting the cake and serving to all of us. It was certainly as sumptuous as I had imagined. A celebration that is now engraved in my mind, May the CLAIRE family celebrate a hundred more blissful anniversaries.



# Our Deepest Fear

*by Arnoder & Sandra Cheron*



Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate  
Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure  
It is our light not our darkness that most frightens us  
We ask ourselves, who I'm I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?  
Actually, who are you not to be?  
Playing small does not serve the world  
There is nothing enlightening about being ordinary  
We are all meant to shine  
It's not just in some of us, it is in everyone  
We are born to transform the world  
To make it a better place  
We are born not be followers but transformational leaders  
And as we let our own light shine  
We unconsciously give others permission to shine  
As we liberate ourselves from our own fears  
We liberate the world  
Arise and sore with eagles



# Visit to CEMESTEA

by Prudence and Amina z Nyati



**T**he Centre for Mathematics, Science and Technology Education in East Africa (CEMESTEA) visit on the 16th of February was certainly an enlightening one. The institution was formed by the Ministry of Education and was mandated to offer in-service education in the area of science, mathematics and technology. CEMESTEA provides a regional resource centre and a forum for ideas in these three ar-

reas. The institution project whose overall goals was to upgrade the capability of young Kenyan's in Mathematics, Science and Technology was started due to the poor performance of students in science and mathematics during their Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education. The opportunity to visit the institution was greatly welcomed as we were in the process of selecting subjects to progress with to the next classes, a decision that would certainly decide our career path.

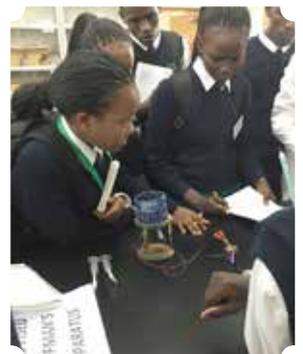
The institution is located in Karen and the trip there was full of excitement as we got to see various famous locations including Nyayo Stadium. The trip was organised for all the form two's by the academy's science department. While there, we learned a lot on making science easy to read and understand as well as the fundamental importance of science in the development of our nation. We got to learn of ASEI-PDSU which is an acronym that the institution uses as they teach students in Science, Mathematics and Technology as a way of making these subjects easy. The acronym means; Activity, Students Experiment, Improvisation - Plan, Do, See, Improve. It is really





disappointing to know that only 10% of Kenyan students take further studies in science, this has hindered the development of the country especially in innovation and technology. The visit offered a new insight on sciences and ignited a passion for these subjects in me. Now we all look at sciences not as difficult but as positively challenging and easy to understand if you put your mind to it, after all, Life is chemistry, dilute your sorrow, evaporate your worries, filter your mistakes, boil your ego and a crystal of success is left.

*The Academy's students during the Visit to CEMASTEVA where they got to learn on making sciences easier through experiments and innovative ways of supplementing scientific equipments needed for learning.*



# Gem To ALL Teachers

by Ivy Wanjiru



You have instructed  
Encouraged  
Enabled  
Influenced  
Shared  
Guided  
Inspired

This is why we say  
Thank you for all the hours spent  
For the attention given  
For the needs you tend to  
The knowledge you impart  
The special touch  
The listening ear  
The guidance given  
The effort made  
The chances taken  
Here is to our teachers  
The gems in our lives  
We salute you.





# MY DECEMBER HOLIDAY



If there is any holiday that I really enjoyed, it was December holiday. I interacted, motivated, encouraged and learnt a lot from others in my community. It was extremely busy for me making it seem shorter than the actual two months that it was. I spent almost the entire holiday with my beloved role model Sheik. Abdulqadir Hassan and the youth of Moyale town transforming their lives. The most wonderful community service that I enjoy doing is motivating, encouraging and bringing the youth from darkness to light because I believe that they are the leaders of tomorrow. I believe that the youth need great support and encouragement if they are to fulfil their duty of serving the nation in the future. A great duty is laid upon their shoulders and yet there is very little support for them to attain the set goals. The youth will not fulfil their duties to society unless they believe in it, they are aware of it and are directed to achieve it by first being convinced that they can do it. A youth is like a newly blossomed flower, holding so much beauty and potential but without satisfaction they will wither away. This is a time in their lives when they are full of life, ambition, resilience and determination and this must be harnessed

for the development of our nation. They need someone to hold their hand and offer support so that they can be meaningful members of society. All this I learnt while working with my role model because he is a professional guidance and counselling officer. This newly acquired knowledge has ignited a passion in me for the youth, I believe how the youth are handled could make or break our society. During the time I spent with them, I noticed that the biggest hurdles to their positive progress was the fact that most of them had completed their secondary education but could not progress to higher education due to financial constraints, this makes them unable to get a hold of their lives and do something positive with themselves. I believe that if offered the opportunity to acquire technical skills, they would be positive members of our society. My admission into the Academy comes with great joy as I will use the knowledge acquired as well as the different skills to go back to my community in Moyale and transform their lives. My aim is to volunteer within my community each and every holiday.



# Zao Haki Tuwape

*by 1 Nyati Class*

Kalamu twaiamsha, shairi kuliandika  
Haki kuzibainisha tuwache kuzikiuka  
Waishi mema maisha, watoto wetu hakika

La Kwanza ni kuwalisha, wapate kunawiri  
Chakula cha kuwatosha, bora kilichopikika  
Si tonge kimekwisha, na huku bado wataka

Na libasi kuwavisha, ainu kusitirika  
Si mitumba yakutisha, ilojaa viraka  
Wala si mararu, hasa yalokatika

Na maradhi yakibisha, kwa watoto kuwashika  
Kwa sonono hakikisha, zahanati kupeleka  
Hima kujikosha, nusuru umauti

Lingine nakukumbusha, ni elimu wanataka  
Lwaongoze maisha, mema yaso na mashaka  
Ujingani kujikosha, bongo zipate funguka

Wakfu wa MPESA shule kajibidisha, mkono wa  
malaika  
Kuwapa la kuwaboresha, bora la kukubalika  
Daraja tuwavushe, elimu pasi shaka

Tuwape na saizi, wazee kwa vijulanga  
Kwa telki twahawilisha, pasipo kukenyemeka  
Shairi twatamatisha, pasi na kutafrika





## Drama Festivals *by Joshua Wafula*

**T**his year, we had the opportunity to participate in the sub county drama festivals for the first time. Drama requires confidence, determination and lots of sacrifice especially on time. We were preparing to participate in various categories such as the Choral verse, solo verse and modern dance and the academy provided the best trainers to get us ready for the competitions. Excellence is one of our core value and we had to depict this in our every practice session and in the final play for the competition, we had to make it perfect and impress. Being the first time we were participating and representing the academy in this events the pressure was on, though not spoken, we knew we had to do our best to fly the academy's flag high. We were privileged to participate in the

Thika West Sub-County drama festivals in the categories of Solo Verse, Choral Verse and Modern Dance at Bakita Girls High School, Juja Farm Road on the 23rd and 24th of February 2017.

We performed as below:

Solo Verse - was awarded best presenter, Best Verse and was position one out of twelve

Choral Verse - Position three out of seven.

Modern Dance - Position four out of seventeen.

The Solo Verse Proceeded to the County levels and emerged fourth out of twenty. The experience has only motivated us to strive to do better next year, it has only boosted our confidence and with hard work and their CLAIRE values we will only get better.



## FRENCH

*By Daizy Koskei And Gloria Makena*



**J**e m'appelle Daizy Koskei et avec moi c'est Gloria Makena. Nous sommes en deuxième année, 2 Nyati précisément. À l'école, nous participons à des activités en dehors du travail académique habituel. Certains d'entre nous participent aux festivals de théâtre et de musique, aux sports et assistent à des conférences.

Ce trimestre, nous avons eu le privilège de participer à tout, sauf les festivals de musique qui se tiendra le trimestre prochain. Comme in-

diqué dans la mission de l'école, certains étudiants qui sont doués en théâtre et danse ont eu l'occasion de mettre en valeur leurs talents. Ils ont pu assister au festival de théâtre qui a eu lieu à St. Bakita Girls High School et ils ont bien représenté l'école par une performance très impressionnante. Le groupe de danse moderne a été numéro quatre, le groupe de chorale numéro trois et la fille qui a fait un couplet en solo a été le champion du jour.

WWDans le domaine du sport, nos étudiants



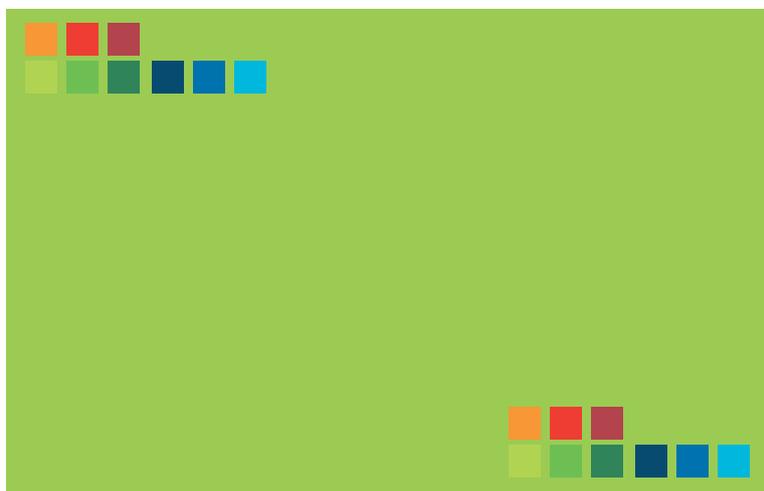


talentueux ont eu la chance de mettre en valeur leurs talents au Lycée Thika et au Stade de Thika. Ils ont rencontré d'autres concurrents mais bien qu'ils y participent pour la première fois, ils ont mis beaucoup d'efforts dans la compétition et sans aucun doute, ils ont été couronnés champions à la fin. À vrai dire, notre école est la maison de talents.

Le 24 et 27 janvier 2017, les membres du Club, Modèle des Nations Unies (MUN) ont eu la chance d'assister à la 23ème conférence annuelle de MSMUN aux bureaux des Nations Unies à Gigiri où ils ont présenté une des résolutions qui a réussi et a déclenché la discussion de la conférence. Bien qu'ils n'aient jamais réussi, ils ont fait de leur mieux étant donné que c'était la première fois pour eux d'être exposés au monde extérieur



*The French students at the alliance Française in Nairobi*



learn

# FRENCH INTRO

By Benson Mwirigi, Form One Nyati



**B**onjour! Comment ça va? Je m'appelle Benson Mwirigi. Je viens de Tharaka

Nithi. J'ai quinze ans. Je suis étudiant à M-Pesa Foundation Academy. Je m'y suis abonné le 25 janvier 2017. Je suis en première année. Nous apprenons des paroles magiques. Par exemple:

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Merci -           | <i>Thank you</i> |
| S'il vous plaît - | <i>Please</i>    |
| Désolé -          | <i>Sorry</i>     |
| Excusez-moi -     | <i>Excuse me</i> |

Nous apprenons aussi vocabulaire de classe. Par exemple:

|                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Taisez vous! -  | <i>Keep quiet!</i> |
| Écrivez! -      | <i>Write!</i>      |
| Regardez! -     | <i>Look!</i>       |
| Écoutez! -      | <i>Listen!</i>     |
| Asseyez-vous! - | <i>Sit down!</i>   |
| Dessinez! -     | <i>Draw!</i>       |
| Sortez! -       | <i>Get out!</i>    |

Merci pour la lecture.  
*Au revoir.*



# Destiny

by Brian Kipkirui Koech



The far we have come, God is our guide  
The journey is not yet over until it is over  
Struggling is the best master  
The finality to be crowned with success  
Our Mission is clear, to arrive at our destiny  
As we all know, tomorrows journey is best prepared for today  
A wise saying goes, the journey of a thousand miles, starts with a step  
We work hard and tirelessly, the taste of victory will be ours  
Our mission is clear, to arrive at our destiny  
M-Pesa Foundation Academy, we are thinkers, leaders, doers  
We strive for excellence, with integrity as our foundation  
We are positively curious, striving to change our nation  
We will lead as we take part in this journey  
Our mission is clear, to arrive at our destiny





## German - Deutsch Speech

by Marion Edith Akello

**M**ein Name ist Marion Edith. Ich bin vier-zehn jähriges Mädchen. Ich Komme aus Busia aber ich wohne in Kiambu. Ich reite gern Fahrrad. Ich singe auch gern.

Zu Hause mache ich viele Aufgaben z.B Ich helfe meine Mutter beim Kochen. Jeden Tag kommt mein Vater um 8:00 abends und sagt "Ich möchte Tee trinken! Ich bin sehr hungrig" Ich finde das sehr komisch aber manchmal langweilig. Manchmal hole ich das Wasser vom dem Fluss ab. Ich vermisse mein zuHause aber ich bin froh, denn ich fahre nach Hause in zwei Wochen.

Ich studiere an M-Pesa Akademie und ich liebe

meine Deutschlehrerin. Sie ist sehr freundlich - ein Geschenk vom Himmel! Ihre Name ist Frau Tiyoy. Sie mag ihre Schüler und Schülerinnen besonders, denen die laut und deutlich sprechen. In meiner Schule, lerne ich viele Fächer ungefähr zwölf. z.B. Es gibt Deutsch, Mathematik, Informatik, Suaheli, Geschichte, Erdkunde, Kunst, Landwirtschaft und Englisch. Herr Onduru der Lehrer Landwirtschaft ist sehr Lustig. Ich finde Deutschunterricht Landwirtschaft sehr interessant. Ich schlafe nie in der Klasse. Die Lehrer sagen auch "Macht eure Aufgabe!" Ich finde das manchmal sehr langweilig und



Gemein. Schüler und Schülerinnen wollen keine Hausaufgaben. Sie wollen nur lesen ohne Examen und Aufgabe. Manche Schüler uns Schülerinnen sind faul. Sie wollen nicht tot arbeiten.

Wir geniessen alles in der Schule. Wir treiben gern Sport. Es gibt Volleyball, Fußball und viele andere

Sportarten. Persönlich, schwimme ich gern. Die Studenten sagen "Du Marion, du schwimmst wie ein Fisch!" Ich finde das sehr toll. Ich kann gut schwimmen, denn ich esse gutes Essen. Ich esse gern Chapati und Gemüse. Danach, esse ich Obst. So ich bin sehr gesund!

Was für eine sehr gute Sekundarschule. Danke.

# COMING HOME FORM ONE

REPORTING /INDUCTION WEEK

by Stacy Lillian Ochieng



It was like a dream come true! After waiting anxiously and eagerly, I had managed to get the opportunity to join M-Pesa Foundation Academy, a dream I had long been waiting for. The chance to join the academy was like a sword of light that had cut through my darkness as I knew that were it not for this opportunity I would not have been able to progress to secondary school. I was overwhelmed with joy and the days preceding the 23rd of January seemed to drag on endlessly. I had mixed feelings of both anxiety and joy, on the one hand here was the opportunity to join a most prestigious institution that promised world class education and on the other, I would finally be travelling outside my county for the first time since I was born. The morning of the 23rd was finally here, the travel to the academy was delightful, my mind filled with awe at the beauti-

ful sites at every corner and when the bus finally stopped at the gates of the Academy, I could not help but be taken aback by the site of the majestic building with roofs that looked like wings. As I walked into the wonderful and magnificent institution accompanied by my mother, I could see that even she was surprised by its beauty. We were met at the gate by the staff of the Academy who were so friendly and kind as they ushered us to the registration desk. I felt as if I could own the entire world with this opportunity. After the admission process, my mother left with a photo to remind her of me in my uniform. Although her departure was sad, and the thought of being this far away from her protective arms did bring tears to my eyes, this was soon overcome by the warm welcome of the form two's. By the end of the day, I felt that



I had gained a new family, I could hardly wait for bed time to rest my head on those beautiful and clean beds as well as chat with my new friends. The uniqueness of the academy cannot be captured by words; dorms are called residences, the classes are named after wildlife, teachers are called form tutors, we have residence parents as well as

*2017 form ones receive school items during the admissions and induction week that was held between January 23 and 26, 2017*



family lunches. It has been weeks since I joined these amazing family and truly I can see the Academy's core values of Curiosity, Leadership, Accountability, Innovation, Responsible citizenship and Excellence in each an every area of the institutions running, in addition to this, I have been transformed into a thinker, doers and leader, I can surely say that my life will never be the same.







# THE COUNTRY OF LEADERS

*by Beatrice Akoth Oele*

In broad daylight  
I saw the whole of  
My country  
Living in unity  
Working together  
Achieving as a whole

The rain  
In this country  
Coloured the whole  
Country green  
Country of innovation  
Responsibility  
Integrity  
Excellence  
Leadership  
Country of dreams  
Natured dreams  
Country of great  
Thinkers  
Doers  
Leaders

Country of no discrimination  
No racism  
No tribalism  
Equality and love  
Living freely



# JOURNALISM CLUB

*by Simon Kyenze*

**J**ournalism is a recently founded club in the Academy. It consists of 30 students who are the pioneers of the club. With the increasing number of current events in the academy, the future journalists compile news stories that touch on education matters, entertainment and outcomes of events. Our goal as journalism club is to provide a creative writing outlet that encourages students to build writing skills, engage in social activities, and have fun!

The school has done its best to support the club by creating the opportunity for the journalists to attend various functions. The journalists then compile news briefs on these events and broadcast the same each Monday during assembly.

Running the club activities needs a lot of cour-

age and commitment, as we have to generate news on our own. The skills acquired in the club will be applied later on in our career paths.

Our mission as the journalism club is to produce school magazines and newsletters for both the Academy as well as the public. We put excellence in what we do, perform what is ordinary extra-ordinarily well and bring about a positive impact to the Academy Family and the country as well. What we have as the pioneers of the club is an uphill task but with the support of our club patrons Ms. Miriam and Mr. Farhan, our vision shall be a complete success, after all, we do not live to dream but instead, we live to make our dreams alive. We strive to be the voice of the Academy.



As Journalism club, we want to leave a positive mark on the Academy. Through planning and hard work we will achieve our objectives which are;

1. Identifying a newsworthy story
2. Basic digital camera use
3. Editing; articles and photos
4. News Anchoring
5. Vocals; tonal variations while reading news.
6. Learn to create movies/Short documentaries



## Likizo yangu

by Lydia Bwari Ondieki



**L**ikizo yangu ya mwezi wa disemba ilinisheheni wahka kwani niliwaza na kuwazua jinsi nitakavyofaulu mahojiano niliyoyasubiri kwa hamu na ghamu kujaribu bahati yangu iwapo Maulana ataniruzuku kufaulu niijiunge na shule ya Upili.

Anuwai ya mawazo yalipeperuka akilini. Simu niliyoipokea ya kufaulu kwangu kuhudhuria mahojiano yatakayo nipa fursa ya kujiunga na shule ya Wakfu wa MPESA nikifaulu ilileta shangwe na nderemo moyoni.

Taarifa hii ilinipa saada kwani sasa mzigo mkuu wa karo ya masomo ya shule ya Upili ulikua umeshawaondokea wazazi wangu. Walishusha pumzi mtawalia.

Kutuliza mawazo ilikua ni kibarua kikuu, nilikua kila wakati nawaza siku ya kuja shuleni kwa awamu ya kwanza, ninatarajiwa kubeba nini? Nini itaangaziwa kutekeleza? Lugha nayo, ninatarajiwa kuwasiliana kwa lugha ipi? Je maombi yangu yatafaa? Duru ya fikra hizi zilitawala akili yangu. Nilijaribu kuutuliza moyo lakini juhudi zangu ziliambulua patupu.

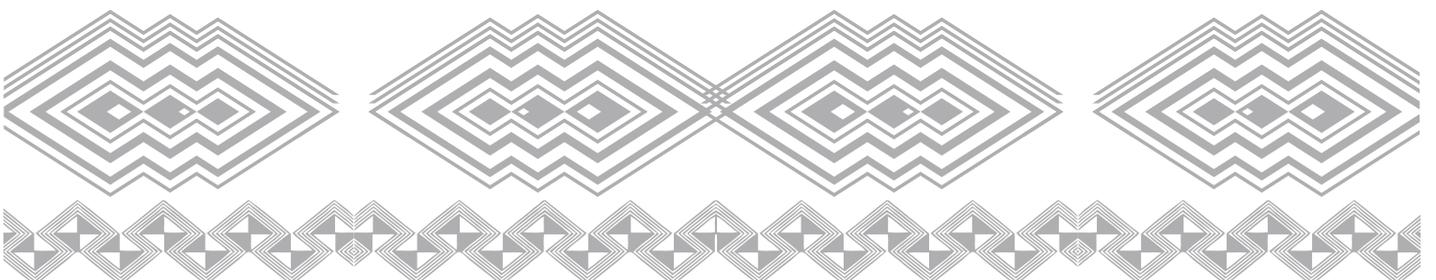
Naam, wahenga hawakutuvika kilemba cha uko ka waliporadidi kwamba atafutaye hachoki aki choka keshapata. Kutokana na hilo nilijipa moyo. Muda huu wote wa likizo nilijumudu na michezo mbali mbali, kuwasaidia wazazi wangu nyumbani na kutafuta ujumbe zaidi juu ya shule ninay-

oieni kujiunga nayo. Moyo wangu ulibubujikwa na raha, kwa kweli maisha yangu yatabadilika daima. Wahenga wapaswa kuvishwa chepeo kwa kunena "Hauchi Hauchi hucha".

Siku yenyewe ilikuwa imewadia na hivyo basi ilinibidi kudamka asubuhi na mapema ili kufika kwenye ukumbi wa mahojiano kwa wakaa unao faa kama ulivyopangwa na usimamizi wa shule. Niliandamana na mwalimu wangu kwani shangazi yangu mlezi alikataa kata kata, kwa kweli mvumilivu hula mbivu

Tulifika shuleni mafungulia ng'ombe na ikatu juzu kusubiri kwani mtaka cha mvunguni sharti ainame na subira huvuta heri. Muda si kiduchu, watahini ambao nawafahamu sasa kama aila ya Shall ya Wakfu wa MPESA wakafika. Bila kupoteza muda, tulianza na mahojiano huku wengine wakiwasili mmoja mmoja hadi tukajaa pomoni ukumbini.

Muda uliyoyoma, na punde si punde, mahojiano yangu yakaisha. Kwa kweli sikujua kwamba nita faulu lakini Maulana hamsahau mjawe. Kabla ya mwezi wa Disemba kumalizika, shangazi yangu alipata ujumbe wakuwa nimefuzu na ndoto yangu imeanza kutimia. Atafutaye hachoki na aki choka huwa ameshapata.



# NO ONE LIKE YOU

*By Euphemia Muliro*



Without any doubt  
I boldly stand to shout  
That M-pesa Foundation is the best  
And no one can disapprove  
You were there when I was down  
When I did nothing but a frown  
You showed me your light at dawn  
M-pesa Foundation Academy deserves a  
crown  
Tell me what else we can say  
Now that we have everything today  
To exemplary people we have been mounded  
with clay  
With sunshine we will forever make hay  
Its up to you to determine your fate  
For M-pesa Foundation Academy has opened  
a gate  
Free of charge costing not even a cent  
How much have you planned to harvest  
Mpesa Foundation Academy  
None is like you



I ♥  
School

# M-Pesa Ni Shule Tosha

*by Derick Amuyunzu*



Shule nzuri ya M-Pesa, inang'aa kotekote  
Kote inakojitosa, halaiki huenda hoyee  
Kwa taaluma ya kisasa, hakuna atuonaye  
M-Pesa ni shule tosha, ni nani anipingaye?

Wanafunzi nao moto, wakubwa hata wadogo  
Ja ndege na kindi wao, hutembea kwa mikogo  
Husalimia wapitao, bila hata mikorogo  
M-Pesa ni shule tosha, ni nani anipingaye?

Majumba nayo imara, yamejaa teletele  
Ofisi zinazong'ara, wafanyikazi wa tele  
Wanafanya kazi bora, sio kupiga kelele  
M-Pesa ni shule tosha, ni nani anipingaye?

Tamati ninaondoka, ninaenda kutuliza  
Ukweli nimewapaka, sitaki kushukuriwa  
Adui nimewazika, hawatakuja fukuliwa  
M-Pesa ni shule tosha, ni nani anipingaye?

**M-PESA**  
**FOUNDATION**  
**ACADEMY**

# HEPTA AND CROSS COUNTRY AT THIKA HIGH



**A**t the beginning of the year we started making preparation for the deca, hepta & cross country competitions. Basically “hepta” means seven games for girls and “deca” means ten games for boys although the games were new to us, our sports coach Habil Amolo motivated us and insisted the we were going to win.

In February the competitions begun, we went to Thika stadium using our bus Claire, “excellent” was our major motivator, the only option was to win. When we arrived at the stadium,

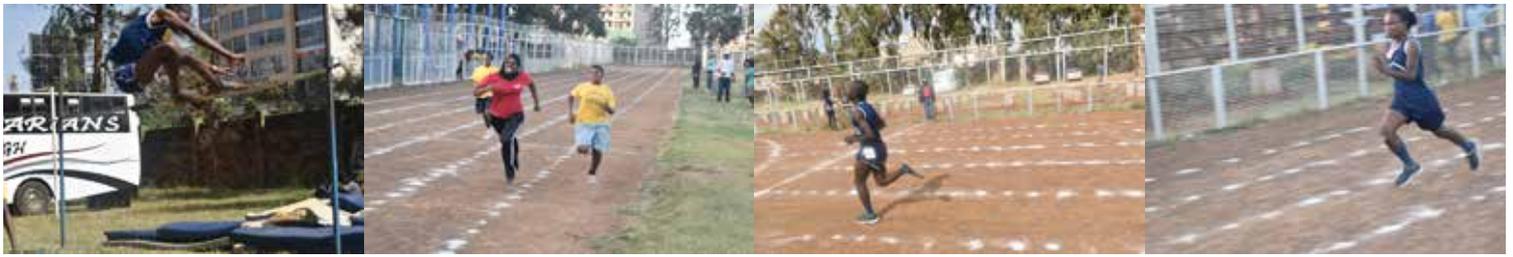
we found schools like Chania high, Thika high, Kenyatta high, Broadway’s high and many other schools from Thika west and Juja. That day was a day like no other as our athletes Evans, Ricky, Albert, Nelson, Jepkurui, Sylvester, Ivy, Odipo, Efiye, Gababa, Lucia, Nyabii, Bosibori among others all well dressed with their attire written MPESA academy flew the academy’s flag high.

We won the first matches 100 m, 200 m, 1500 m 800 m, 110 m as well as noon high jump, long jump and the Discus. Competition was tough but the amazing thing was that we were on top in every game and finally M-pesa Founda-



*The academy’s students during the sports competitions that were held at Thika Sports Stadium*

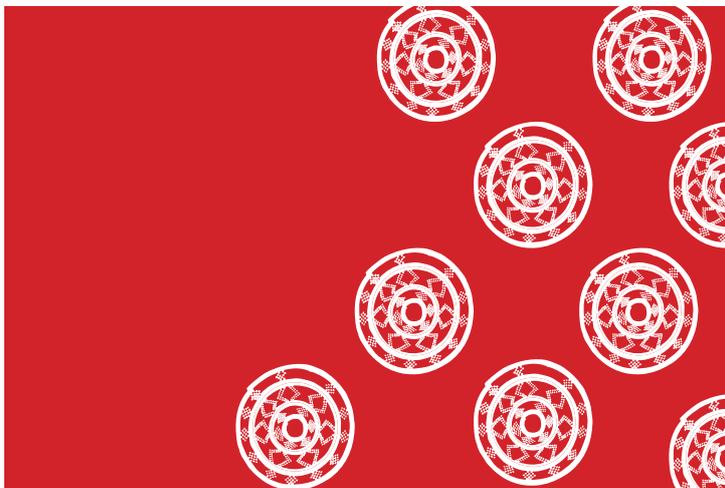




tion Academy became position one exemplifying our talents and the efforts of our teachers. Many schools were amazed by our excellence being the first time we are competing at the sub county level. Teachers from Alliance and Mangu were very happy about our school because we appeared the best in all event and this made many student admire want we did, many of our student managed to move to higher levels of competitions. Student like Evans Somian, who had never before played in pole vault played and managed to be the best by jumping 3.2 m high this actually made him realise a new talent that he did not know he had before.

**I am really happy by the Academy's effort of encouraging all students in sports as well as the other areas that are of interest to them.**

Their support has enabled the students realise that they can be able to perform in any area of choice and this has also improved their overall studies.



# The 23<sup>rd</sup> Middle school United Nation Annual General Conference

Daisy Kosgey



**P**articipation in the 23rd annual Middle School Model United Nations (MSMUN) conference was a fantastic experience. I learnt a lot and gained new skills such as listening skills, critical thinking skills as well as speaking in front of both international and local citizens confidently. It made me realise that anyone can do anything but only if he/she is confident enough. It also helped me improve my research skills since we had to do a lot of research so as

to know the problems facing people internationally and find possible solutions. It also helped me to be more disciplined since most of the tasks from lobbying, to debating and voting for or against resolutions needed so much discipline. Generally the MSMUN was a learning and interacting week for me and I wish to thank all that made the conference possible because I now believe that I am a different person from whom I used to be before the conference.



# Students Team Building

by Virginia Njoki



I had never before heard the term team building, the morning could not have been more vividly exciting. I wanted to know what the Academy staff had in store for the day. I was eager to know what happens during a team building. Finally the day was here, as I boarded the bus together with other students to Braeburn where we were set to use their fields being that ours were not yet ready, I could not wait to begin. A team from outside had been invited to come and coordinated the team building and the theme of the day being Razzmatazz (Positive energy).

As the activities for the day begun, my heart was overwhelmed with joy. We had various

activities all aimed at making us learn to work together as a team so as to achieve our goals such as forming a square using seven triangles, balancing solids on a round shaped fulcrum and joining pipes as a team and letting a marble pass through it without falling until it reached a bucket, if it fell then you were to start again. These activities did teach us the importance on communications, corporations, working together harmoniously and most of all that we are only as strong as the weakest person in the link. At the end of the day, we had taken a step forward in forming even more stronger bonds in the CLAIRE student family. It was truly amazing



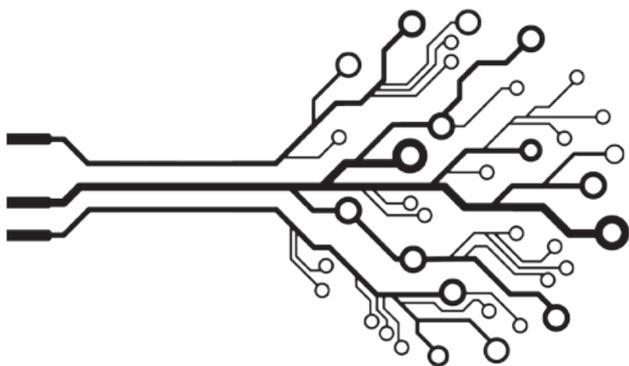
# TECH - NOVATION

by tech-novation students team

Claire M'mbalasi

**H**ave you ever imagined something that you knew would be the first or planned to invent something that you knew would change lives, then you are already an inventor. Tech-Novation made me understand how Mark Zuckerberg came up with Facebook. It has shown me just how easy it can be for one to be an inventor. For one to be an inventor, one must take a look at the society around him with a different view point, this is the edge

hance our communication skills as we air out our thoughts. Tech-Novation has enhanced our capacity of thinking to a more wider and in depth form. In teams, after identifying a problem we assess how Tech-Novation can mitigate this problem and then invent a Software Application solution. Imagine life without Mpesa and more so the impact that it has in our country Kenya! Someone sat down and thought of an easier way to send money in a fast, reliable and instant way to a loved one with an emergency need that couldn't wait access the same from a bank, with all the hassles therein, and invented Mpesa. The girls in Tech-Novation come up with mobile application App ideas with the help of coaches in different fields of technology who help in coding of the Apps. Immediately you pitch the App and it seems convincing then it is sponsored and you start off. Kenyans, it is time to unleash our ideas, both boys and girls, ideas that will develop our country technologically since technology in this era is the weapon to the success of a developing nation. Think of an idea come out from your cocoon and make life better for people around the world. We as The Mpesa Foundation Academy students strive to come up with innovative ways on how to become leaders in the various fields of technology in Kenya and Africa at large and it all starts with tech-novation as the foundation to our idealistic young minds. Are you in this journey? Join tech-novation and take the challenge! Tech-novation! GIRLS FOR CHANGE. Remember there is always a gap that can be filled with an app. An idea does not have to be as large as Jupiter, you are on earth, intelligent people make complex ideas simple not simple ideas complex.



that an inventor has over the rest, while people learn to live with problems as an everyday part of their lives, an inventor identifies the problems people are facing and tries to solve it using technology.

Tech-Novation is a program that is encouraging young girls to become technology entrepreneurs and solve the problems in their society. In our society it seems girls have been forgotten in areas dealing with technology. The tech-Novation challenge is offering girls with skills a chance to communicate and express their great ideas so as to help the world at large. The pitching of ideas helps us to en-

Clare M'mbalasi- Kifaru 2

# STEM CLUB

by Lucia Atieno



**A**t M-Pesa foundation academy, we have over 30 clubs. Some of the active clubs include Entrepreneurship, MSMUN, young farmers, stem, presidential award, Engage, Interact, Aviation, Dance, Journalism, Expolingua French, Young Innovators and Fashion.

The Academy has invested a substantial amount of money on STEM and Entrepreneurship clubs. STEM stands for Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. It's all about using technology to solve problems that occur between humans, environment and life. It requires critical thinking, understanding of the environment, the love for technology and also positive energy. The 40 students that are involved in STEM are able to programme robots and make them move in different directions. This encourages their innovative skills as well as their problem solving skills, commitment, teamwork and cooperation. They have had the privilege of being trained on how to use loops to programme machines making them perform certain tasks. Some of the application in STEM can detect smoke and ex-

tinguish the fire, they can be used for collection of minerals and making of garbage recycle machines. They can also be used to help the physically challenged such as the blind to go about their daily lives using guard dogs fitted with sensors to aid them while assisting their challenged companion.

Technology is vital in the order of life and in the academy. With STEM club, students are given a platform to be innovative, one of the core value of the Academy. Being teenagers, we are naturally curious about everything and this platform enables us to combine the our values to come up with amazing inventions, who knows, we might just be the first learners to build a real rocket that can be launched into space. There is no limitations to what the mind can achieve if provided with the opportunity.





# UTANI

by Joshua Mutinda & Warren Mutugi

HA HA! HA HA!



PENYE KUKU WENGI... CHINJA MBILI AU TATU  
UKIONA VYAELEA... HAVINA UZITO  
NYANI HAONI.... YUAHITAJI MACHO NNE  
DEBE TUPU... LIJAZE MAJI



MWALIMU: MBONA UMEKUJA NA UGALI KWA DARASA?  
MWANAFUNZI: MAANA ULISEMA KUA MASWALI YA LEO NI MBOGA, BASI UGALI HII NILIYOBEBA NI YA KUAMBATISHIA MBOGA



MVULANA: JE UTANIPA MAPENZI YA DHATI?  
MSICHANA: NITAKUONGEZA HADI YA FOURTY.



# NOTES

# Thinkers Doers Leaders

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