

NEWSLETTER

NAIROBI WALDORF SCHOOL TRUST NEWSLETTER

END-OF-TERM THREE HIGHLIGHTS 2024.



Nwst Proudly Celebrates Its First Graduating Class, Marking a Historic Milestone Filled With Joy And Achievement.

1	2	3	5
IB DP STUDENTS GRADUATION	GREAT PLACES TO SCHOOL	THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE	NWST AGM
We are immensely proud of the first cohort of IB DP students at NWST who graduated this term.	Great schools foster academic excellence and a nurturing environment that encourages curiosity and creativity.	The purpose of Theory of Knowledge is to encourage students to reflect on the nature of knowledge	We hold annual NWST AGMs to discuss and address critical issues concerning the school.

IB DP CLASS OF 2024 GRADUATES AS FIRST COHORT



IBDP Graduates Class of 2024



IBDP Graduates, Class of 2024

On June 27th 2024, NWST celebrated a joyous milestone as our first cohort of IB DP students graduated. The ceremony was filled with pride and happiness for the graduates, their parents, and the entire NWST community, especially since some students started in kindergarten at NWST. The graduates delivered heartfelt speeches, cheered on by their fellow high school students. A touching moment was when their former kindergarten teacher joined the celebration, reconnecting with them after many years. Congratulations to our pioneering IB DP graduates of 2024; we are incredibly proud of you all.



Left to Right ; Wambari Were, Kiiva Nashikawa, Sarah Moraa, Alexandre Hubert, Samuel Kihara and Mustafa Ghulam.



IBDP Graduates, with their parents



IBDP Graduates getting ready for cake cutting

The NWST community congratulates you on completing your high school studies. As the first graduating class from NWST, you will always hold a special place in our hearts. May you find fulfillment in all your endeavors. Congratulations once again!

GREAT PLACES TO SCHOOL WORKSHOP 2024

Transformative Education in the Global South Towards 2050



GPTS Participants Engaging in a Fun Exercise at The Nandi Road Campus Multi Purpose Hall



GPTS Participants Outside The Nandi Road Campus Multi Purpose Hall

The Great Places to School Workshop for the Global Peace Foundation was held at The Nairobi Waldorf School Trust for three days from April 11th to 13th, 2024, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The theme for the workshop was **“Transformative Education in the Global South Towards 2050.”**

The experiential workshop, attended by over 100 participants from all over Kenya, was designed for educators and leaders committed to transforming education as the catalyst for African renewal. The transformational journey begins with educators and then students, by unlocking their full potential anchored in vision, principles, values, character, and wholistic development.

Building on that is developing skills, digital technologies, and an entrepreneurial mindset that will lead to job creators, a resilient workforce, and good citizens. The creation of regional educational models, great schools, and the moral and innovative leadership competencies was explored.

The workshop aimed to transform educators and leaders as agents of change, ready to guide their students towards wholistic development. Some key components addressed during the workshop included wholistic growth and development. Participants left the workshop with a deeper understanding of the components that make a great school environment, practical strategies for implementation, and a network of professionals dedicated to improving educational settings.

The last day of the workshop concluded with a myriad of activities such as:

1. Showcasing martial arts,
2. Presentation of certificates to all participants and the partnering institutions,
3. Tree planting by all the participants of the Global Peace Foundation 2024.



GPTS Participants Posing for a Photo Outside The Nandi Road Campus Multi Purpose Hall

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE EXHIBITIONS

On May 24th, 2024, Nairobi Waldorf School's IB Diploma section proudly hosted its second Theory of Knowledge (TOK) Exhibition Day. This significant event saw the participation of four schools: Aga Khan Academy, Nairobi Academy, M-Pesa Foundation Academy, and St. Mary's School, Nairobi. The day was marked by vibrant interactions and invaluable learning experiences as students from these schools engaged with our students.

The Theory of Knowledge course is a fundamental component of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, designed to cultivate critical thinking and a deep understanding of how knowledge is constructed and evaluated. The Theory of Knowledge course is not just an academic requirement but a vital element that shapes students into reflective and inquisitive learners. To fulfill the IB Diploma requirements, students must secure at least a grade D in this course, as a grade E constitutes a failing condition, emphasizing the course's critical importance.

It allows students to engage deeply with the material, fostering skills in analysis, presentation, and critical thinking. Through the exhibition, students gain a profound appreciation for how knowledge operates in diverse contexts, which is crucial for their academic and professional futures.

These interactions provided a platform for the exchange of ideas and constructive feedback, enriching the overall learning experience. The feedback from teachers of the visiting schools was particularly valuable, offering new perspectives and suggestions that will help our students refine their projects. The success of this event was significantly contributed by the dedicated efforts of our Theory of Knowledge supervisors.



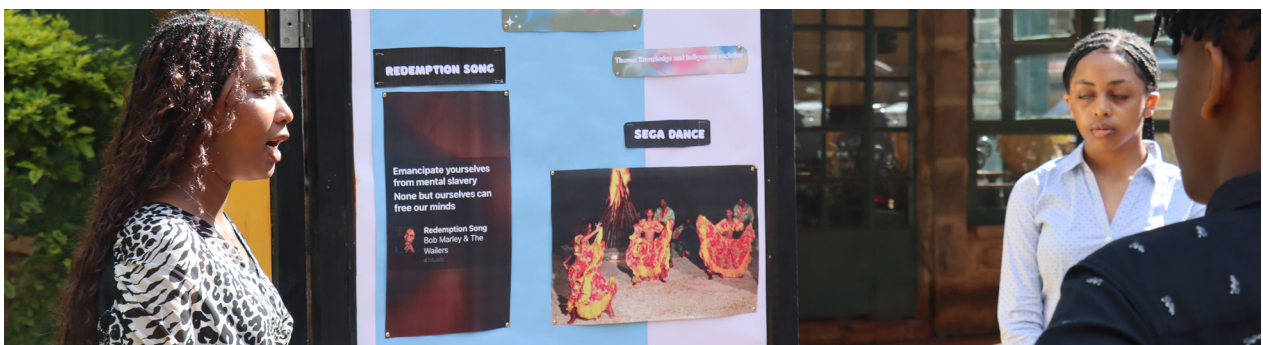
Lina Zawadi (Class 12) engaging with other students at the TOK exhibition.



Pauline Nyokabi (Class 12) engaging with fellow students at the Theory of Knowledge exhibition.



IB DP students engaging with fellow students.



Left to Right: Pierre-Louis Rubi and Kelsey Wangui engaging with fellow students at the TOK exhibition.

GENEVA WALDORF SCHOOL VISIT - REFLECTION



Geneva and NWST students posing for a picture



NWST and Geneva students painting together

The visit from the Geneva class brought a wave of excitement and curiosity to our school. It was a pleasant surprise to meet Grade 11 students from a distant country, adding a refreshing global perspective to our routine. We had an interactive session, sharing information about our schools and global issues in both parts of the world. The initial curiosity over their arrival quickly turned into genuine interest and eagerness to connect. This encounter highlighted the richness of cultural exchange.

We quickly found common ground playing basketball, which broke the ice as everyone joined in and enjoyed the game. Talking with students from Switzerland sparked many questions and conversations about their homeland, free time activities, weather, school life, and why they decided to visit Kenya.

The Geneva class was genuinely impressed by NWST. They were struck by the warmth and hospitality of the students and staff, noting how quickly they felt welcomed. They admired the school's commitment to environmental sustainability. They felt that the visit provided a unique and enriching experience, deepening their understanding of different cultures and educational practices.

NWST ANNUAL WALKATHON EVENT

The annual Walkathon fundraiser event, held on May 25th 2024, was a great success. Students, parents, and school staff members gathered at Ngong Forest Association, ready to walk for a great cause. The weather was good, with clear skies. Participants ranged from Kindergarten to upper primary students, all eager to contribute to the school's fundraising goal. The enthusiasm was contagious and everyone laced up their sneakers and hit the track. The event kicked off at 9:00 a.m. with a brief welcome speech from the Deputy Director. We then had a warm-up session and some aerobics to start the walk. Students were also given an opportunity to bring their bicycles, making the event even more fun for them. The Walkathon is not just about raising money; it's also about coming together as a community to support our students and enhance their educational experience. A big thank you goes to all students, parents, volunteers, sponsors, and staff members for making the event possible. Seeing everyone at the Walkathon event walking together for a common cause was truly inspiring.

We are thrilled to announce that we raised **Ksh 273,538** at the walkathon.



Walkathon participants gearing up with a warm-up session



Walkathon participants hitting the trail

NWST 18TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



NWST Community at the AGM at NWST Karen, Nandi Road



Charles Madowo, External Legal Counsel to the School, Counting Votes.

On June 15th, 2024, NWST held its 18th annual AGM, a crucial meeting where the NWST Community was updated on the school's progress, heard reports from the management and NWST Board Chair, and participated in elections. Concerns from parents were addressed directly, ensuring their voices were heard. The AGM, which happens every June, is an essential gathering for parents to attend as important issues are discussed and decisions that shape the school's future are made. This year, Pooja Patel was re-elected to the legal committee and will continue serving on the NWST board for the next five years. We strongly encourage all parents to join next year's AGM to stay informed and engaged in our school's journey.

As a community school, NWST thrives on the active involvement of all its members. The AGM is more than just a meeting; it's an opportunity for parents, teachers, and staff to come together, share their insights, and collaborate on the best path forward for our children's education. Your participation helps ensure that NWST continues to grow and improve, reflecting the needs and aspirations of our entire community. Let's work together to make NWST an even better place for our students

PUBLIC MEETING: PROPOSED BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTION

On June 25th and July 10th, 2024, the NWST and Karen communities came together for a public participation meeting moderated by Devlink Resources Consultants.

Held at 10 a.m. in the multi-purpose hall, the meeting focused on the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the proposed construction of classrooms and associated amenities at The Nairobi Waldorf School Trust along Nandi Road, Karen. The discussions were thorough, and community members had the opportunity

to voice their opinions and concerns. More information about the project and its impact will be shared with the community soon, ensuring transparency and continued involvement in this important development.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the NWST community members who attended these public participation meetings. Your involvement is crucial in shaping the future of our school, and we greatly appreciate your time and insights.



Community members participating in the public meeting



Susan Kariuki, NWST Board of Trustee, addressing the attendees

THE MAGIC OF WALDORF CLASS PLAYS



NWST students shining on stage during their class plays



NWST students bringing stories to life in their class plays

Waldorf class plays are more than just a showcase of talents; they are an integral part of our curriculum. Each play is thoughtfully selected to align with the student's developmental stage, allowing them to explore characters, emotions, and narratives that resonate deeply with their age and experiences. Students work together, supporting and inspiring one another as they bring the play to fruition. From designing costumes and sets to coordinating movements and music, every aspect of the play results from teamwork and togetherness. Waldorf class plays embody the essence of our education philosophy – fostering wholistic growth, igniting imaginations, and nurturing the human spirit. We invite all members of our school community to make it a habit to come to witness the magic of Waldorf class plays. Each play is a unique and heartwarming experience, with laughter and moments of pure wonder. As the audience, you become part of the story, supporting our young actors on their journey.

NWST GRADE 5 (11 YEAR OLDS) GREEK OLYMPICS



NWST student throwing javelin

On June 5th, 2024, our Grade 5 students participated in the Greek Olympics, an event that brought smiles and excitement to everyone involved. The sports ranged from javelin throws to wrestling and relays, creating an atmosphere of celebration as students cheered each other on. Parents joined in the cheering, adding to the joy and support. The Greek Olympics are an essential part of the Waldorf curriculum for Grade 5 students, promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and a deeper understanding of ancient cultures.

In the modern Waldorf Greek Olympics, students represent different city-states such as Sparta and Athens to learn about their unique contributions to Greek culture and history.

Colors can be assigned to teams to differentiate them and bring a sense of identity and pride, echoing the historical significance of these ancient communities. Spartan Team: Might wear red to symbolize their warrior spirit and strength. Athenian Team might wear white or blue to represent wisdom, purity, and the intellectual heritage of Athens.



*Students wrestling at the Greek Olympics
Class 5 students*

NWST CLASS 8 AND KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS TRANSITION CEREMONIES



Zhavia Njeri listening to a verse from her teacher, Doreen Nyangarisa



A KG student placing a candle in the middle of the Waldorf Spiral



Finley Peterson, Class 8 Student at the Class 8 transition ceremony



Class 8 students and NWST Community Members

At NWST, we celebrate significant milestones with transition ceremonies for both Class 8 and Kindergarten students, recognizing the importance of these special moments in their educational journey. The Kindergarten students walk down the spiral, a powerful symbol of their growth and development. As each child descends, their teachers read a personalized verse, celebrating their unique qualities and achievements. This heartfelt gesture emphasizes the individual paths each child takes as they prepare to move into primary school, marking the end of their early childhood experience.

Similarly, Class 8 students commemorate the conclusion of their primary journey as they prepare to transition to high school. This ceremony honors their accomplishments,

and reinforces the supportive environment at NWST, which equips students with the skills and confidence needed for their next phase.



Class 8 transition ceremony at the Karen Campus, Multi-purpose Hall

CONGRATULATIONS SESENET KANTAI



Sesenet posing for a picture at Johannesburg



Sesenet during the tournament at South Africa

Sesenet Kantai, a student at NWST Lavington Campus Class 4 recently celebrated a remarkable achievement: her participation in the 15th Annual African Youth Chess Championship. The championship, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, brought together the brightest young minds from across the continent. For NWST, this was not just a chance to compete but an opportunity to showcase the strength and determination of its students.

The journey to the competition began months ago with training sessions from their coach Zadock Mokaya in the after school activities sessions. We congratulate Sesenet Kantai for her exceptional performance in the country that opened up paths for her in South Africa.



Class 4 Students Celebrating Sesenet



Celebrating victory with a sweet slice of success

THANKS TO OUR NWST COMMUNITY

Dear NWST Community,

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our parents and community members for your unwavering support and cooperation throughout this academic year. Your active participation in school meetings, events, and activities has been invaluable. We deeply appreciate your feedback and the various ways you have shown

your support, helping us to continually improve and grow. Your commitment and involvement are the cornerstone of our success, and we look forward to continuing this journey together.

We wish the entire NWST Community a joyful and restful holiday season.

School Reopening on 2nd September 2023 - Welcome Back

School will reopen on Monday, 2nd September 2023. We look forward to welcoming back our parents and students for another exciting term