

# Mid term Newsletter June 2008

29<sup>th</sup>/06/2008

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we draw towards the end of the **academic year** for the **Cambridge School** and **end of term 2** for the **UNEB School, the Board, Management and Staff of Vienna College** commend your support given to the school in its quest to provide quality education to our students.

The school has attained numerous achievements towards the realization of a model International school status. We successfully prepared our **maiden Cambridge Candidates (172)** in the **May-June** final examinations and we are optimistic to achieve **excellent** and **deserving grades in Mid August 2008**. This was a huge number of Candidates by any standards and it catapulted our **Vienna Cambridge Centre** to be the **largest in East Africa**.

On this note therefore, allow me to express my appreciation publicly to the **Students and Staff** who worked tirelessly since **January** to prepare these Candidates, **the Parents** for the financial and social support and **the Board of Governors** for the material and moral support given to the school.

**November 2008 Candidates:** The battle is now focused on **S.4 and S.6 UNEB Candidates, S.6 C.I.E AS and A-Level Candidates and I.G.C.S.E S.4 Students** who will be accorded the opportunity of taking early exams. Management is aiming at a **100% pass-rate** for UNEB S.4 Candidates. They are committed and focused group that we want to nurture to their fullest. We are going to utilize optimally our Staff and Senior colleagues from other schools to act as resource personnel for our UNEB A-Level S.6 class starting Mid August. This will expose them to external UNEB assessment standards. **UNEB S.4 and S.6** shall be tested with **Internal and External Mock examinations** at the end of this term.

**The Cambridge November 2008 AS and A-Level Candidates** are many (**115**). This is both a key and a strategic group for the school. A clear plan for their preparation shall be laid towards the end of the term but involves a mandatory **term X instruction** for all. The Candidates list is available for viewing on notice boards.

**Board of Governors Meeting:** On **18<sup>th</sup>/June/2008**, a **Board of Governors meeting** was held here at the school. **The Governors** had lunch with the **Students and Staff**. They received Views from **Students and Staff “first hand”**. In the meeting that followed, far reaching decisions were made aimed at strengthening and completely turning Vienna into an **internationally renowned and respected school**.

**Massive Investments:** The **Board** resolved to invest heavily in Halls of residence (dormitories), **water and sanitation, instructional materials like electronic resource centre, print library (text books), Science laboratories and equipment, Staff professional development, Students welfare and the school’s discipline and corporate image**. **The Board** is going to meet the full cost of these developments and in return they expect **Parents** to contribute proportionately towards the school’s recurrent expenditures.

**Revised School Fees Structures September 2008:** Following the rising food prices, fuel and almost all consumables, the cost of maintaining the school at the same qualitative lifestyle has seemed untenable at the present school fees levels. Our school has been double hit by the economic hardships. The rising cost of living was coupled with a falling **value in the dollar exchange rate**. The school charges its fees in **US dollars**, the depreciation of the dollar has caused massive losses to the school in **exchange rate losses** as the school receives revenue in dollars, changes it into shillings at reduced rates. Since most of the payments are made in shillings, it meant that for every dollar that you paid, the school lost **150/=** on average on every dollar. This has pushed the school into **financial squeeze** to which we are requesting Parents to contribute towards the increasing running costs. Effective next term **September 2008**, the fees for continuing Students have been revised as follows: -

<b>S.1</b>	-	<b>\$480</b>
<b>UNEB School S.2 – S.6</b>	-	<b>\$660</b>
<b>Cambridge S.3</b>	-	<b>\$880</b>
<b>Cambridge S.4</b>	-	<b>\$930</b>
<b>Cambridge A-Level - Humanities</b>	-	<b>\$1,050</b>
<b>- Sciences</b>	-	<b>\$1,110</b>

**S.2 Crossover to S.3 I.G.C.S.E:** The **Parents** of **S.2 Students** should meet the **Class teacher** and **Management** for details of this switch of Curriculum. A child to be allowed to switch over to Cambridge ought to have passed **at least six subjects** with a **60% mark**. **Parents** are required to fill in a **Consent Form** which is available with the Class teachers.

**Mid term Report Cards** are available with the Class teachers. Parents endeavour to meet the teachers and discuss your child's progress with the individual subject teachers.

**Staff Professional Development:** The following Staff members successfully completed their Stage II professional development courses with Cambridge University Assessment Board: -

1. Mr. Musaaazi Michael - History A-Level
2. Mr. Ojera Lawrence - Biology A-Level
3. Mr. Wakuma Aaron - Business O-Level
4. Mr. Owino Gabriel - Economics A-Level
5. Ms. Kabonesa Harriet - Geography A-Level

They join **fourteen** other Staff members who are **trained** and **fully accredited Cambridge examiners**. This is on top of **Ms. Ntege Eva** who is undergoing training in teaching Chemistry using I.C.T in a Japanese University, **Ms. Ndyanabo Mirian** and **Mr. Karekyezi Patrick** undertaking on-line professional assessment course in **Art & Design** and **four** other teachers traveling to **Nairobi-Kenya** in **September** for subject specialized training by Cambridge experts.

**Co-curricular Activities: Sunday June /1<sup>st</sup>/2008**, was the climax of the colourful **Inter-house competitions**. **Tiger House** emerged winners in **Music Dance and Drama** while **Leopard** carried the **sports trophy**. We salute the winners and all the participating houses.

God bless you ALL,

Kakiika Mohammed  
**Headmaster**