

25/11/2024

Legae Academy



An epitome of educational excellence for 32 years

Welcome to the final edition of our newsletters for 2024.

Leading the future generations to a world of opportunities and making them succeed gives us a gratifying experience year after year.

As the end of year is nearly upon us and we are all crawling to a much needed holiday, we are happy to report that the strategic planning for 2025 academic year and next term program have already been finalised.

Greater demand for 2025 Form 1 intake in our school is a clear indication of the trust bestowed on well-established schools with excellent track records like Legae Academy by the parents. This is because of the strong conviction of the public that we dedicate every ounce of our energy towards the educational success of their children -ensuring that the zero-tolerance policy on discipline is implemented. Every innovative possibility is explored, every fundamental skill in creative thinking essential for learners is developed to provide the perfect springboard for university study.

All our successful A-Level graduates (2023) are doing exceptionally well in reputed universities around the world: USA (6), UK (9), Australia (3), Hongkong (2), Canada (8), Grenada—St. George University of Medical Science (12), Eastern European countries for medicine (3), South Africa (4). Most of them are studying on Scholarship.

GOOD CONDUCT COMPETITION

TERM 3

Michelle Dzimiri (4B) won the 1st prize by scoring 144 points

Laksh Parikh (2C) scored 139 points to win the 2nd prize.

Congratulations!



Michelle Dzimiri



Laksh Parikh

Cancer Awareness Day

Legae Academy commemorated Cancer Awareness Day on Monday 28th of October. As a show of support and compassion, our staff and students wore Cancer Ribbons on the day. It was a silent campaign to promote empathy and support for anyone affected by cancer. We made our commitments to fighting cancer by raising funds for the Cancer Association of Botswana. P5,882.00 was raised and our Managing Director was kind and magnanimous to add another P6,118.00 to make the total amount to be donated P12,000.00. Thank you to the MD, staff, students and parents.



“In today’s pop culture society, many children are learning false values from the social media platforms that permeate their daily lives, promoting the need for immediate gratification and an intolerance for values such as self-discipline, stickability and hard work.

Educators and parents have a shared obligation to equip our youth as they take on adult responsibility. We need to provide them with the skills for the jobs of tomorrow and help them to develop, nurture and grow the independence and life skills they will need.”

Reaching out to the communities

Legae Academy Community Service rendered a helping hand to the community throughout the year 2024.

In Term 1 2024, the ARC Club held a FIFA Tournament to raise funds for the needy, and with the help of the School Management, the ARC donated P10 000.00 to Monax Shelter for Hope in Metsimothabe. MONAX Shelter takes care of orphans and some senior citizens. Opposite are the ARC members during the handover of the food items.

Our A-Level students taught Nko ya Phiri Primary School standard 7 students from January to September 2024.

Legae Academy students with the Nko ya Phiri standard 7 learners on the last day of teaching, which was on the 18th of September 2024.

On the 10th of October 2024, the ARC Club donated P3000.00 to Tlamelong Rehabilitation Centre. The money will be used to do some repairs in the hostels.

Another group of our students worked with The African Haven, which is a charity organization that helps orphans and vulnerable children at Tshwaragano Primary School with remedial lessons.



Astronomy and Space Club

The Astronomy and Space Club at Legae Academy had an exciting and enriching term, highlighted by a remarkable opportunity to meet the European Space Agency Astronaut Professor Christer Fuglesang. This event took place on October 2, 2024, at the University of Botswana (UB) and marked the official launch of the Centre of Excellence in Planetary, Space, and Technology (CESST), developed by the UB FAST4Future team.

Professor Fuglesang's visit was a pivotal moment for our club, providing students and teachers with firsthand insights into space exploration. Eleven enthusiastic students and four Physics teachers represented Legae Academy at this unique event.

The two-hour session included a captivating presentation by Professor Fuglesang, who shared his experiences from two missions to the International Space Station (ISS). His engaging talk was enhanced by videos showcasing his journey, daily life in space, and his research endeavors.

Students gained valuable knowledge about the future of Astronomy and its applications across various scientific disciplines, including Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Engineering, Medicine, and Computer Science, with a particular emphasis on AI. The interaction not only inspired our students but also deepened their understanding of how space exploration influences multiple fields. The meeting with Professor Fuglesang was a resounding success, igniting a passion for space science among our members.



One of our Form 5 students VAISHNAV SUBEESH KOLAZHY participated in a panel discussion during the National Science week from 19 August 2024 to 23 August 2024, organised by the Ministry of Communications, Knowledge and Technology in collaboration with BIUST and with the involvement of other stakeholders.

The discussion was entitled "What are the advantages and disadvantages of Artificial Intelligence in Secondary School Education"

The panel discussion took place on the 20th of August 2024 at Mafitlhakgosi Primary School.

Field Trip to the Meteorological Department

On the 17th of September 2024, 59 Form 5 students embarked on a field trip to the Meteorological Department Centre located in Village, Gaborone. The students were accompanied by Ms Ndaramwi and Mr Kezhara. They left the school at 7:20 and were back in school by 10:00 am. This was an educational trip meant to enhance students' knowledge of the interpretation of weather elements and instruments. Students got the opportunity to enter the weather room where the weather news is broadcast nationwide and viewed on television and other media platforms. They also had hands-on experience in the weather station as they observed and interacted with real time weather instruments. They saw a Stevenson Screen and all the instruments kept in it as well as a sunshine recorder, wind vane, rain gauge and other automated instruments. Above all, they learnt data literacy as they were taught how to collect, analyse and interpret data. Finally, the students passed by the Three Chiefs Monument in the CBD, thereby enriching their knowledge of the political geography of Botswana. Overall, the trip truly gave the Form 5 geography students a cloud nine learning experience.



Preparing for Life

Holistic Approach to Education

We focus on our students' overall development including their mental, emotional, physical and social growth. It aims to help students develop life skills and become well-rounded individuals who are prepared for the modern world.

We teach following as non-academic subjects to our lower school (Forms 1&2):

AI and Coding

Stress and time management & Mental health

Social etiquette

Finance and Insurance

Life skills

Basic Household maintenance

Basis Car maintenance

Public speaking

Drama

Civics Education and current affairs

Dance and movements

E-Smart and E-safety

Cultural Day Celebration

This year's Cultural Day was held on Wednesday 11th September. Cultural Day is held every year to celebrate the cultural diversity at Legae Academy. All students and staff dressed up in traditional/ethnic costume on this day. There was a competition and the "best dressed" students and staff received awards.



Chess Club

The main competition within the Club, held during October, was the annual Handicap Knockout Tournament in which the stronger players had to give odds of pieces to weaker players. This was won by Ezra Bartlett (2C) who defeated his strongest rival, Hariharan Ananda (1C), in the final. The losing semi-finalists were Noor Fatima Toor (1B) and Deon Martin (2C). Also receiving awards for defeating much higher seeded players were Michael Ketlhokile (2D) and Yuhao Wu (2C). Altogether 16 players competed in this tournament.

Legae Academy players competed in 3 external tournaments.

The first of these, held at Botho University over the weekend 7-8th September, saw Hasitha Manikonda (4F) win a trophy and gold medal for finishing in 1st position in the Girls Senior Section with a score of 4.5 points from 7 games. Ezra Bartlett won a silver medal for his performance in the Boys Junior event, scoring 5 points from 7 games. Other competing Legae players were Hariharan Ananda (4.5/7), Rishitha Mallavaram (3/7), Ulathi Nkomo (4/7) and Samuel Mukisa (3/7).

There was further success for our players at the Primavera Chess Tournament held at UB on 16th September. Awards were gained by three students as follows:

Deon Martin (2C) - Gold medal and chess set for 1st position in the Boys U12 Section,

Hariharan Ananda (1C) — Gold medal and chess set for 1st position in the Boys U-14 Section.

Ulathi Nkomo (2C) — Bronze medal for 3rd position in the Boys U14 Section

Other students competing in this event were Ezra Bartlett (2 points from 5 games), Rishitha Mallavaram (3/6), Noor Fatima Toor (1/6), Hasitha Manikonda (3/6), Samuel Mukisa (2/5) and Ritvik Sayana.

In the final event of the year, nine of our players competed in the 3rd Youth & Cadets Chess Championships held at The Learning Center from 26-27th October. Hasitha Manikonda again won a gold medal and trophy for finishing 1st in the Girls Open event with a perfect score of 6 wins from 6 games. Ezra Bartlett won a bronze medal by finishing 3rd in the Boys Open scoring 5 points from 6 games. Also winning a bronze medal was Samuel Mukisa with 6 points from 7 games in the Boys U-12 event. Other results by Legae Academy players were as follows:

Rishitha Mallavaram (2C) — 5th position in Girls Open scoring 3 points from 6 games.

Noor Fatima Toor (1B) — 12th position in Girls Open (2/6).

Hariharan Ananda (1C) — 12th position in Boys Open (4/6).

Ulathi Nkomo (2C) — 26th position in Boys Open (3/6).

Yuhao Wu (2C) — 33rd position in Boys Open (2/6).

Deon Martin (2C) — 38th position in Boys Open (2/6).

It is hoped that next year the Club will continue to build upon its success as the top-ranking school among all private schools in Botswana and be able to increase its membership to return to the numbers seen in previous years. As ever thanks to Mr. Chima and Alex Mpuisang for their invaluable help both during our regular meetings and external events

ENVIRONMENT & YOUNG SCIENTISTS CLUB

Highlights of this term's activities:

Presentations for World Vulture Day

Looking at stomata in leaves (Mrs. Oommen)

Making spaghetti and marshmallow towers

Chemistry experiments

Presentation by AfricanFalcon involving a demonstration of how they are helping to control the population of feral pigeons in the school.

The Club also took a walk up Kgale Hill in the middle of a very hot afternoon. Although we failed to reach the top due to a lack of sufficient time, the walk was well-attended and most agreeing to a similar walk next year.

For our final meeting on 29th October, over 30 students joined the visit to the Madison Square Garden Snake Park near the village of Mokolodi. They were excited by being able to handle some (non-venomous) snakes and receive a talk about snakes in Botswana. This is another location our members will be keen to return to next year.

It should also be noted that a team of four senior students (Devna Suresh, Michelle Dzimiri, Kgalaletso Sabuku and Amir Dilelo) participated in an interschool's debate competition held at the school on Saturday 14th September in commemoration of the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer. The event was organised by the Department of Meteorological Services who also gave awards to all participating students and staff. Thanks must be given to Mrs. Mutepfa and Mrs. Gadiile who helped train and organise our debate team.

Mathematics Collaborative Contest: Our school participated in the Mathematics Collaborative Contest which was held on Saturday the 5th of October 2025 at Al - Nur School. It was a team work consisting of four students. The senior students (Form 4) won second prize with a trophy and a cash prize of P 1250-00 shared among the four members of the team. The junior team (Form 2) also won second prize with a trophy and a cash prize of P1500-00 shared among the contestants.

Senior Team: Fang Yujian - 4 C, Srivats Sivaramakrishnan - 4 E, Naga Sai Hasita Manikonda - 4 F, Wawa Hobona - 4 A

Junior Team: Jordan Malobu - 2 D, Laksh Prikh - 2 C, Ruoxuan Zhang, Can Cui - 2 B



Senior Team



Junior Team

French Club

This term, the French department with students of French language continued with the activities of the “French Club” at Legae Academy.

The highlight of this term was the outing to “Les Trois Chefs” (The Three Kgosi), on the 10 October 2024, and that was followed by an eating out at a Cafe. The outings allowed the members to talk about the History of Botswana, and organise the Club’s last meeting around French Gastronomy the following week.

It was a truly enriching term for us, as a Cultural Club, to give the students the opportunities to have fun and use the language along with the cultural heritage of both countries: Botswana and France.

During the general meetings, our program included short movies and trip preparation allowing the students to take responsibility in organizations.



Legae Student wins “All Star Award” in ISSA Basketball tournament

Four of our basketball teams participated in the ISSA Basketball Festival in Mafikeng.

I am happy to report that our student Qirui Yan was awarded the All Start award for the U16 boy’s category



Preparations for 2025

As we approach the beginning of the new academic year, preparations are now at an advanced stage. In this context, I trust that you will find the following information helpful:

The school will open on Tuesday 14 January 2025. In the week before the school opens, there are some scheduled activities including the textbook collection.

Textbook Collection

The students are scheduled to collect their textbooks before the school opens. Parents are urged to bring their children to collect the textbooks as per the schedule below:

Monday 6 January: Textbook collection for Form 2 (8:00 AM – 1:00 PM) (2:00 PM -4:00 PM)

Tuesday 7 January: Textbook collection for Form 4 (8:00 AM – 1:00 PM) (2:00 PM -4:00 PM)

Wednesday 8 January: Textbook collection for Form 5 (8:00 AM – 1:00 PM) (2:00 PM -4:00 PM)

Textbooks will be supplied to A Level students after the school opens.

Term 1 2025 Calendar Highlights

Wednesday 8 January	Deadline for paying the first term fee
Monday 13 January	Form 1 students report for orientation
Tuesday 14 January	Regular school opens
Friday 7 March	Prize-giving Ceremony
Monday 10 March	Mid-term holiday
Mon 24 March	Consultation with Form 1 parents (2:00 –5:00 PM)
Tuesday 25 March	Consultation with Form 2 parents (2:00 –5:00 PM)
Wed 26 March	Consultation with Form 4 parents (2:00 –5:00 PM)
Wed 2 April	Consultation with Form 5 parents (2:00 –5:00 PM)
Friday 4 April	School closes

Arrangements during School Holiday Period

The school offices will remain open until Friday 13 December 2024, and will reopen on Monday 6 January 2025. Our office hours during the holidays are 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM and 2:00 - 4:00 PM Monday through Friday.

The Cambridge Exam Result dates

Our Form 5 and A-Level students are looking forward to the release of their examination results . Results for AS and A-Level exams will be released on Thursday 9 January 2025 and Form 5 exam results will be published on Thursday 16 January 2025 Our students have access to the *Candidates results* website. Each student will have to use his/her own password in order to access the *Candidates results* website. The students who have cleared are advised to collect the letters with access information from my secretary. This will let our students see their results without them having to come into the school. We wish them a pleasing outcome of their examinations.

I would like to end by thanking all the parents of our learners for their unwavering support throughout this year.

I salute our teachers for their dedication to preparing learners well for the October/ November exam series. Their commitment to supporting learners during this important time is invaluable.

Have a wonderful holiday season and best wishes for the new year.