

COMMUNITY WIDE NEWSLETTER

SOS-HERMANN GMEINER INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE



SEPTEMBER 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

"When integrity guides the journey of learning, the destination is always noble." - Unknown.

I welcome you all to the 2024/2025 academic year with great excitement and a deep sense of responsibility. As we embark on this new chapter together, I am hopeful and optimistic for the journey ahead.

This year, our theme resonates with the very essence of who we are as a community: "Strengthening Integrity." Integrity is more than just a word; it is the foundation upon which our values, actions, and aspirations are built. It guides us in our pursuit of excellence, influences our decisions, and inspires us to be the best versions of ourselves.

To our students, you are the heart of our community. This year, let integrity be your compass as you navigate your studies, relationships, and personal growth. Embrace this opportunity to excel academically and build character that will serve you for a lifetime.

To our dedicated staff, your unwavering commitment to nurturing young minds is invaluable. As educators and mentors, you play a crucial role in instilling integrity in our students, modeling the principles of honesty, fairness, and respect in all you do.

To our alumni and alumni staff, you are the living legacy of this institution. Your continued involvement and support serve as a powerful reminder of the lasting impact that a strong foundation in integrity can have on our lives and careers.

To our board members and sponsors, your guidance and generosity have always been instrumental in our success. Your commitment to our mission and values ensures that we continue to provide a learning environment where integrity thrives.

Together, as a united school community, we have the opportunity to make this academic year one of growth, achievement, and meaningful connections. Let us work hand in hand to strengthen the bonds that tie us together and to build a future where integrity is at the core of all that we do.

I look forward to the year ahead and to all that we will accomplish together. Thank you for your continued dedication, passion, and support.

MYP AND DP ORIENTATION

Our DP Class of 2026 had an engaging orientation program at the beginning of the semester, where they gained valuable insights into their upcoming DP journey. Sessions covered everything from self-management and leadership to university counseling and academic research. The week culminated in a Self-Identity Exhibition, showcasing students' individuality and their anticipated DP experiences. To wrap up, the Class of 2026 headed to Ensign Global College for an outdoor orientation, focusing on group bonding, reflection, and reinforcing this week's learnings. Students were accompanied by 14 staff members, ensuring a supportive and enriching experience.

Our MYP4 students bonded through circuit activities learned about the MYP framework and heard insights from senior students. They also traveled to Hillview for an outdoor orientation filled with fun games and international-mindedness presentations. They wrapped up with academic policies and set the stage for a successful year ahead.

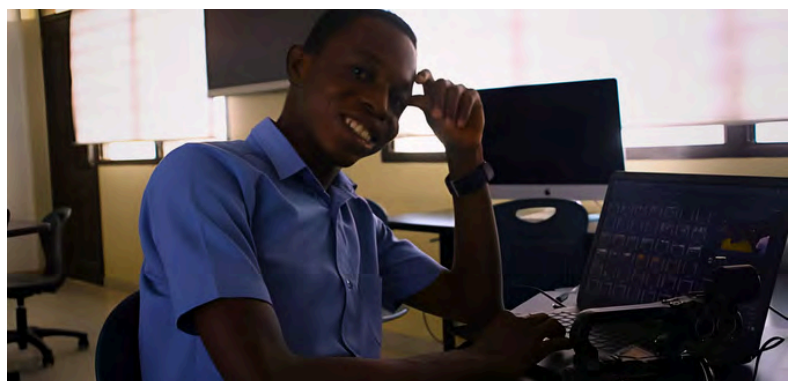


SEIDU KABORE'S SUMMER RECAP



Our DP2 student, Seidu Kabore, overcame challenges in public speaking and tutoring during the summer by stepping out of his comfort zone to help students struggling with homework. He organized night classes at SOS Children's Village Tamale, where he taught math and science, which helped him gain confidence speaking to groups.

Later, in Gumani, he extended his teaching efforts by assisting a neighbor preparing for the West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE), using a hands-on approach with limited resources. This experience improved his teaching and communication skills and highlighted the value of giving back.



SWIMMING COMPETITION

The SOS-HGIC Vikings triumphed as the overall champions of this year's Inter-Hostel Competition, followed closely by the Titans, Spartans, and Trojans. In a closely contested battle, every house demonstrated remarkable teamwork, determination, and school spirit.

The Vikings' victory was a testament to their collective effort across various disciplines, from sports to academics. The competition highlighted the grit and commitment of all participants, with students pouring their hearts into each event. Mr. Oduro praised the students for their hardwork, emphasizing that this competition celebrated victories and strengthened the school community. Congratulations to all the houses for making this year's competition unforgettable!



MARGARET NKURUMAH DAY



On the 25th of August, the SOS-HGIC community gathered to honour the legacy of founding Principal Margaret Nkrumah with an event themed "Pan Africanism - What it Means to Us Today." The day featured insightful panel discussions and moving poetry performances, highlighting the relevance of Pan Africanism in modern life.

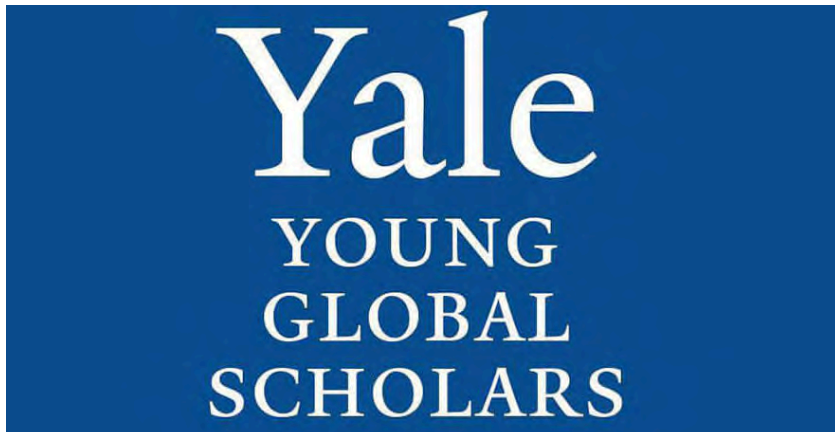
Distinguished speakers, including Dr. Edith Dankwa, Mr. Francis Appiah, and Dr. Mjiba Frehiwot, shared their expertise on media, business, finance, and academia, emphasizing the importance of unity, economic empowerment, and education within the Pan-African movement. The event was a powerful tribute to Margaret Nkrumah's enduring impact on education and Pan-African ideals.



CONGRATULATING DP2 STUDENTS PAPA KWAKU OPOKU OPOKU-AFARI AND NEVIN DABRAH

Over the summer, DP2 students Papa Kwaku Opoku Opoku-Afari and Nevin Dabrah made remarkable strides at the Yale Young Global Scholars Program. Papa Kwaku focused on Politics, Law, and Economics, attending seminars on ethics, politics, and global conflicts, and delivered a powerful TED Talk on the significance of choices and the power of the mind.

Nevin participated in the Solving Global Challenges track, engaging with peers from 150 countries to explore ways to address global issues. His team presented a project tackling education inequality in Shanghai, China, through the Hukou system. Both students had transformative experiences, enriching their understanding of global challenges and sharing Ghanaian and African perspectives with the world.

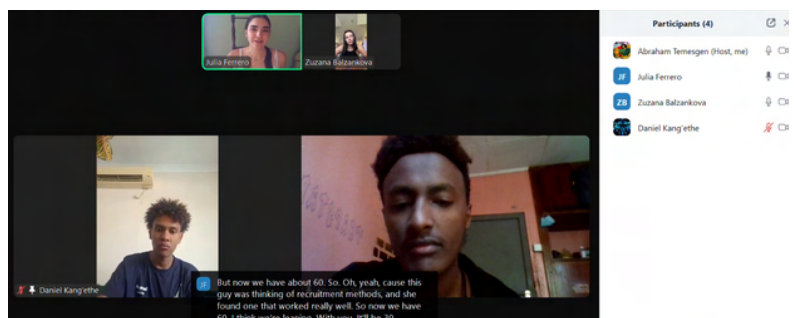


ABRAHAM TEMESGEN GELMESSA: A SUMMER OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND GLOBAL LEADERSHIP



This summer, Abraham Temesgen Gelmesa was awarded a scholarship to participate in the Cisco Network Academy's Entrepreneurship course, where he is expanding his knowledge on the entrepreneurial mindset, different types of entrepreneurs, and essential business skills.

Additionally, he was selected as a DYT (Douglas-Young Tournament) Student Ambassador, which involves promoting the tournament within his school, organizing activities, and representing his peers in various discussions. The DYT, which attracts participants from over 70 schools across 45 countries, provides Abraham with a unique platform to enhance his leadership skills, build global connections, and contribute to initiatives that promote academic success and social responsibility.



SEA INITIATIVE BY ELIKEM ASEM, SOMPA BAAH, AND AFRICA SAKYI-ADDO

During the summer break, DPI students Elikem Asem, Sompaa Baah, and Africa Sakyi-Addo, launched a project called "SEA" to support inmates at the Senior Correctional Center for Boys in Accra. Over two months, they raised over 10,000 GHC through sticker sales and donations, which they used to purchase essential supplies like belts, socks, toothbrushes, boxers, school bags, and a projector.

The team also organized a book drive, gathering donations from various sources, including the Valco Library and Resource Centre at SOS-HGIC. On August 8th, just before their summer break ended, they visited the correctional center to donate these items, interact with the juveniles, and witness a service by Regain Hope, the organization they partnered with. Their initiative was a resounding success, exceeding their goals and positively impacting the community.



KIMBERLY JOY SEFADZI SOUSSOUDIS: A SUMMER OF PHILANTHROPY AND ADVOCACY



During the summer, MYP5 student Kimberly Joy Sefadzi Soussoudis, a student at SOS-HGIC and founder of the NGO Sisike, made a significant impact by donating stationery to 150 students at St. Kizito Senior High School in Mepe, marking the successful completion of her NGO's first initiative. In addition to her philanthropic efforts, Kimberly also focused on raising awareness about heart health by creating a podcast. She developed animations, designed informative posters, and conducted interviews with medical professionals to highlight the harmful effects of smoking on the heart.

