



The American School of Kinshasa

TASOK TALK – JUNE 2021



Congrats TASOK Class of 2021!

In This Edition:

- Message from the Director–Graduation 2021!
- #My Mental Health Matters
- Senior Send-Off Day!
- The Joys of Photography in Pre-School!
- A Day in the Life of a Grade 6 Student – What to Expect!
- Meet the NEW TASOK Staff – 2021/2022 (ES & SS)
- Elementary 3-Way Conferences
- Theory of Knowledge Exhibitions – Grade 11
- Save the Planet’s Journey
- Helping All Children Reach Their Potential at TASOK
- May AGM – Election Committee Results
- Career Day – Grade 7
- Business Office Update
- Nurse’s Corner – Contact Tracing/3 W’s of Staying Safe
- TASOK 2021-2022 Academic Calendar

Message from the Director – Graduation Ceremony 2021!

It is that time of year where campus is buzzing with all the end of year activities as we celebrate our 2021 graduates, prepare grade 5 students for life in secondary, and say farewell to those students and staff moving on to new adventures next year. Today, we had anxious seniors on campus practicing walking across the stage, ready for tomorrow’s big ‘socially distanced’ event – “**Graduation 2021**”.

What a senior year this has been for the class of 2021! While we have been slowly able to have more and more events on campus, this graduating class missed out on all the typical senior ‘traditions’ that we hope to bring back next year. Through all this, they have persevered and are ready for their next chapter at university. Congratulations on your achievements – you did it!

I would like to offer a few words of encouragement. First, continue to instill the attributes of the IB Learner Profile in life and everything you do. Remember as you reflect on this past year and others, and as you get ready to start your new journey, your time and friends here in Kinshasa and at TASOK will always be a huge part of your life. We live in a time of never-ending change and challenges. Go on to university with an open mind knowing that you leave here with the skills and knowledge to really make a difference in the world.

For those with undecided paths, when the time comes you will know what to do, as with all matters of the heart you will know when you find it.

And finally, be happy – this is a time to celebrate, you achieved your goals. Find support in your friends and loved ones, thanking your parents for their support in your achievements.

We celebrate you and honor you today.

Be safe, be well, be kind,

Dan Mullen - TASOK Director



Our Mission for Excellence: *The American School of Kinshasa provides dynamic and individualized educational challenges and opportunities that promote diversity and empower each of its students to develop into independent global community leaders.*

#My Mental Health Matters

TaShawndra Govan – Elementary Counselor

In the elementary at TASOK we celebrated Mental Health Awareness Month with a Spirit Week. Throughout the week, everyone participated in different activities from Mental Wellness presentations, to mindful nature walks, to yoga sessions. We here at TASOK believe that everyone's mental and emotional well-being is the most important factor in our daily lives and we should all take some time to make sure we are practicing self-care and are using healthy coping mechanisms when our emotions get too strong.



“Be Kind to Your Mind”

Please refer to the poster below for a few ideas that parents can do at home to nurture your child's mental health, as well as your own. If at any time you feel like your child may need extra emotional support, contact me, the elementary counselor at tgovan@tasok.net and after getting some information from you, I will schedule an appointment with your child.



“Wellness Wednesday”



” Team Up Against Stress”

How to nurture a child's mental health

- 1. Actively listen before offering your advice
- 2. Be patient
- 3. Share your feelings and validate theirs
- 4. Tell the truth
- 5. Model healthy behavior
- 6. Surround them with healthy adults
- 7. Be consistent and follow through with what you promise
- 8. Teach them how to be safe
- 9. Believe them and in them
- 10. Use open ended questions
- 11. Practice relaxation exercises together
- 12. Have scheduled family time
- 13. Limit electronic time for everyone
- 14. Reach out and hug them
- 15. Model forgiveness
- 16. Recognize positive choices
- 17. Respond calmly when their emotions are elevated
- 18. View their behavior as a window to their needs and feelings
- 19. Make play and exercise a requirement
- 20. Be present
- 21. Set and respect boundaries

© 2019 Mental Floss Counseling Store

Senior Send-Off Day – May 19th, 2021

Julie Mullen – Secondary Counselor

On Wednesday, TASOK celebrated our 60th graduating class, which began with a senior breakfast....

Toasts were made and good stories exclaimed
Handprints were then placed,
In a very special place.
For those who moved on, and
For those who stood strong.

The Tammy Awards were conducted,
For all of the teachers who have instructed.
Jokes were had and teachers were glad,
To see teamwork apparent and lessons
inducted.

This is not goodbye, so Seniors don't cry.
Your future is waiting, just for the taking.
From Atelier, to Elementary and Faculty alike,
We bid you adieu and applaud you too!

What a way to end and a day to commend
Congratulations class of 2021!

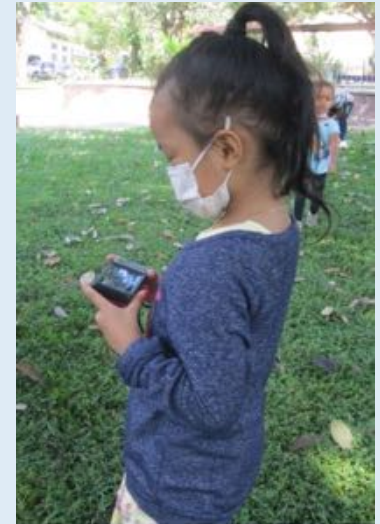


Do we have a future Annie Leibovitz, Ansel Adams, Cindy Sherman, or Man Ray, in our Preschool 1 & 2?

Kelly Kraft – Whole School Librarian



Our youngest students have been actively engaged in exploring the joys of photography. Beginning in the library and extending their inquiry units of *How the World Works* and *How We Express Ourselves*, preschoolers were introduced to our small point-and-shoot digital cameras.



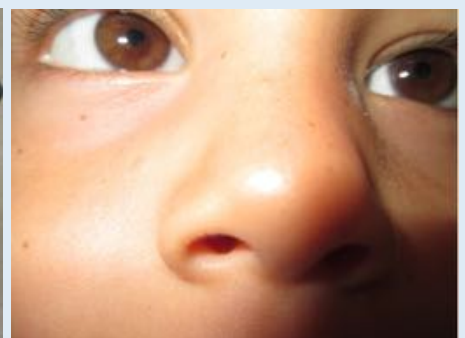
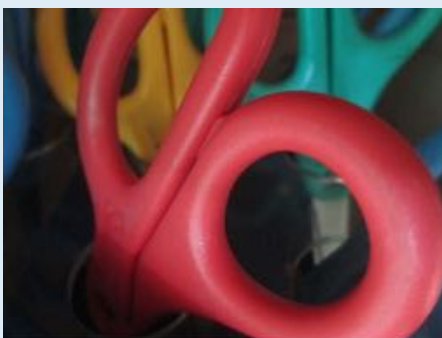
Their excitement was palpable! Each student had their own camera and investigated the inner workings first.

They were able to identify and discuss the parts of the camera, including the battery (which makes the camera go), and the memory card (which stores the pictures).



They problem-solved how to turn them on and off and how to manipulate the large cameras with their smaller hands.

Once they had the cameras in their hands, they began to explore their surroundings, including the areas inside and outside the library and more in-depth within their classroom. Their subjects are personal and intimate. From creations they made, materials in the classroom, to artistic drawings, friends, teachers, and the beauty of the TASOK campus.



'A Day in the Life of a Grade 6 Student' – What to expect.

Lesley Peacock – Secondary Principal

If you mention 'Jump Up Day' to Grade 5 students you will receive a uniform response. They will all literally jump up and down and start laughing. One thing is for sure the students certainly acted enthusiastically to the name of the occasion and hopefully found the activities themselves just as memorable.



Our librarian, Ms. Kraft, headed the run-up to Jump Up Day by asking the class to write down some of their most pressing questions to be answered as a major piece of the program to follow.

You can always guess the top 3 concerns from Grade 5 students as they transcend time and place; Do I get a locker? Where is my locker? What happens if I lose the key to my locker? That big step from Elementary to Secondary, where the possibilities of weighty questions seem almost endless is always reduced to lockers. Occasionally the amount of homework expected in Grade 6 may make the top three, but there's just something about lockers that fascinates Grade 5 students.



This is rather ironic since lockers haven't been used this year due to social distancing, but perhaps next year and then I'm sure a whole new flurry of locker questions will take on a world importance. Apart from the lockers Grade 5 came up with some very worthwhile questions, that were answered, by the principals, teachers, and a panel of Grade 6 students. Discussions also took place looking at the similarities and differences between the Middle Years Programme (MYP) and their present Primary Years Programme (PYP).

To provide some variety to the day a scavenger hunt sent the class scurrying in all directions, as they discovered where rooms and facilities were located. They also had the chance to join the Secondary for lunch and wave to older family members who were passing between lessons. The second day provided an MYP lesson taster, where groups of Grade 5 students worked alongside the Grade 6 classes solving Math problems, acting in a Performing Arts class, learning more about Design, and watching videos that had been made by the Grade 6 English class.

Now the transition process passes to the parents, who I'm sure are also very anxious to have their questions answered and learn more about the MYP, although I imagine lockers will feature lower on the priority list. On Friday 4th June at 2 pm in the Library, Mr. Austin the MYP Coordinator, and I will be providing a parent transition meeting to address your questions and provide information in preparation for next year.



Please do come along and join us in helping to provide a smooth start for your children-Day 1 'Welcome to the Secondary School'!

Meet the TASOK New Staff for 2020/2021

Elementary School

Michael Bailey:
Elementary Principal



Mike is very excited to join TASOK as the new Elementary School Principal. Mike's experience includes 9 years as a principal and assistant principal and 11 years as a classroom and single subject teacher. His teaching career includes extensive PYP experience in elementary classrooms and single subject teaching in physical education and technology. His work and family moves have taken him to Italy, Spain, Egypt, Korea, Qatar, China, India and the United States. Throughout his career, he has taken on leadership roles in schools and has actively sought to grow and develop the schools to better serve the students and communities. He is particularly interested in design thinking, empowering students, and developing communities that support each individual child.

Mike will be joined by his wife, Vitna, and his youngest daughter, Anabel. His oldest daughter, Felicia, will be starting college in the fall in the U.S. and is looking forward to visiting. Vitna will be joining TASOK as the PYP coordinator/Librarian and Anabel will be joining Grade 5 next year. Mike loves traveling, building things, practicing martial arts, and spending time with his family. Mike and his family are looking forward to a brand-new experience and getting to know the TASOK community.

Vitna Bailey:
PYP Coordinator & ES Library



Vitna is excited to take on a new role as PYP coordinator/Librarian and have the opportunity to meet and engage with all students and teachers in the primary. She has been working as an instructional coach, literacy coordinator, and classroom teacher for the last 13 years. She has taught preschool, first and third grade, and has worked with students from preschool to 11th grade in different capacities. She is passionate about bringing joy to teaching and learning and providing instructions that will support and challenge all.

Her husband, Mike Bailey, and their younger daughter, Anabel will join the TASOK community while their older daughter, Felicia will be off to college and start her life as a young independent adult. As a family, they lived in Korea, the US, Qatar, China, and India and traveled to many countries. The whole family is looking forward to the move as this is Bailey's first time living in Africa.



Elizabeth Gough: Grade 1



My name is Elizabeth and I have been teaching for the past 14 years. I graduated from the University of Potchefstroom, with a Bachelor's degree in education and an honors degree in Educational Psychology. I started my international teaching career in 2015 when I accepted a teaching post at an international school in Saudi Arabia. This is where I meet my husband Michael-Ashley. We moved to China shortly after we got married and taught PYP at the Canadian International School of Beijing. Our 17-year-old son, Leville and our 2-year-old daughter Amaya-Grace will be joining us on our move to Kinshasa. I love outdoor activities, reading, dancing, traveling and baking). I'm looking forward to having loads of new adventures in Kinshasa!

Michael-Ashley Jones: Grade 2



My name is Michael-Ashley Jones and I have been teaching for 7 years. I graduated from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology with a Bachelor's degree in Education. After graduating and only teaching for 3 months I took one of the biggest leaps of my life by daring to take on an international teaching position in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Not only did I grow as an individual and teacher, the other blessing was that it was there that I met my wife, Elizabeth. After getting married, we moved to Beijing to teach at the Canadian International school of Beijing. My favorite thing about teaching is taking kids from the known to the unknown and witnessing those "ahaaaaa!" moments when understanding is visible. I love incorporating my love and passion for music into the class, and sharing this passion with the students. My wife Elizabeth, 17-year-old son Leville and 2-year-old daughter Amaya-grace are extremely excited to join and be part of the TASOK family! I love exploring new places, languages and cultures, writing and performing music.

Blair Cochran: Grade 4



Blair grew up in New Jersey, USA. She left the Garden State to earn her BA at Swarthmore College, and has been exploring ever since. Stateside, she has taught elementary school in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where she earned her teaching credentials from the University of Pennsylvania; and Boston, Massachusetts, where she earned a master's degree in education from Boston College. After serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in The Gambia, she taught 3rd and 4th grade at Banjul American International School. She and her husband Chris Guttridge taught for 3 years at the American School of Douala, Cameroon, and 3 years at Casablanca American School in Morocco. They have two sons: Nicolas, who will be joining TASOK as a preschooler, and Lucas, one year old and the boss of the household. As a teacher, Blair firmly believes that upper elementary is the best place to be, and loves helping the magic happen. Outside of school, she enjoys reading, cooking, singing, and brushing up on her French.

Meet the TASOK New Staff for 2020/2021

Secondary School

Chris Guttridge:
Secondary Learning Support EAL



Chris Guttridge grew up in South Africa and Pittsburgh, PA, U.S.A. Chris earned a BA in International Politics and African Studies but began working in education after serving in The Gambia with the Peace Corps. He has worked in schools in Scotland, New York City (where he earned a master's degree in Special Education and Childhood Education), Boston, and then in Cameroon and Morocco. Chris's teaching experience in Boston focused on more inclusive settings and included ELL teaching roles. In Cameroon and Morocco, he has adjusted to evolving student needs, providing Learning Support and ELL instruction, as well as administrative support. Chris enjoys supporting service-learning activities. With his wife Blair and their children, Nicolas and Lucas, he enjoys exploring their surroundings and (occasionally) blogging about it.

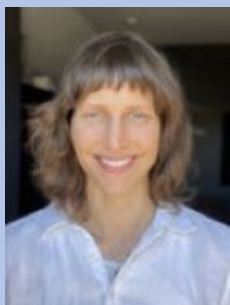
Amanda Dago:
Secondary IB MYP/DP English



Amanda earned her B.A. in French Secondary Education and started out her 24-year teaching career as a middle/high school French teacher. Four years later, she realized that teaching high school was not the right fit at that time in her life. This epiphany led her on a 17-year detour teaching ESL to the over 18 crowd that started with getting an M.A. TESOL from Biola University. Then, in 2019, Amanda's family moved to Northern Virginia. It is here that the opportunity to return to her roots as a middle school teacher unexpectedly presented itself. For the past two years, Amanda has been teaching at a private school as a Middle School English teacher. She has enjoyed round two in the secondary world much, much better than round one! Although not her first time living or working outside of the U.S., this will be Amanda's first-time teaching at an international school and in an IB setting. Her passion as an educator is to help others find and develop their own passion for learning.

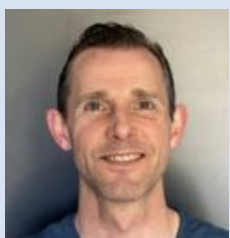
Amanda was born and raised a Minnesotan, but her heart belongs to Southern California! Amanda and Achille have two boys who keep them on their toes. Micah (8) and Ezra (4) are both excited to attend TASOK this fall. Outside of teaching, she enjoys reading, trips to the beach, traveling, playing games, watching sports - especially when her kids are participating!

Heather Robison:
Secondary IB MYP/DP English



I am passionate about the development of student voice. My teaching revolves around building the environment, tasks, and supports needed for students to tap into their own interests and write from their experience and passions. I have an interdisciplinary Master's Degree in American Studies that drew from History, English, and Musicology, and I bring a spirit of inquiry and curiosity to all my endeavors. I've always wanted to live abroad, and I'm thrilled to join the TASOK staff. Back in undergraduate I was a track and field athlete for the University of Nevada, Las Vegas Runnin' Rebels and now I love to dance for exercise. Music and creative expression are important to me, and a few years ago I started a garage rock band in Seattle. I've taught English Language Arts for the past 20 years and I still can't think of a better job than talking about books and ideas with kids. I am excited to travel and teach with my partner Peter and bring my 10-year-old son Peter and 6-year-old daughter Penelope along to join the TASOK community.

Peter Brady:
Secondary IB MYP Design



Peter will be joining TASOK to teach Design. Peter has a Bachelors in Computer Science from Utah State University with a Mathematics Minor. Peter is transitioning to teaching from his career as a computer programmer and consultant where he crafted documentation and conducted training for engineers. He has had a lifelong interest in anything that ticks, blinks, spins, or combusts and is looking forward to sharing his passion with students. In college Peter played Ultimate Frisbee, which he continued in Seattle with teams that won many regional championships and competed at nationals. Peter and Heather are thrilled to join the TASOK community with their two children, Peter (10) and Penelope (6).

Catherine Steinmetz:
Secondary IB MYP/DP Math



Catherine is relocating to Kinshasa from Arlington, VA where she currently works as the coordinator of a secondary STEM program within Arlington Public Schools. Catherine has been in education since 2010, teaching both science and math in public and international schools. She studied engineering in college and worked as a professional engineer before transitioning into education. Catherine is arriving with her husband, Will, two children, Charlie and Clare, and an Australian shepherd named Ernie. She loves being active and outdoors. She grew up attending international schools and is excited to share the experience with her children.

Elementary Three-way Conferences

May 7, 2021 was a momentous day for all our TASOK families. It was the first time everyone was invited on campus at the same time this school year!

And our elementary families took full advantage of it! Almost every family joined us for their child's three-way conferences! Our early risers started at 7:30am and our last families left campus at 4:30pm - and everyone had a smile of their face!





Our students all exhibited a growing levels of responsibility as they independently led their parents to meet their homeroom teachers and also their single subject teachers for French, art, music and PE and even library!





Our teacher marvelled at their students' and enjoyed meeting many of their parents for the first time. We hope you enjoyed your child's conferences this year as



Thank you to all our parents for your partnership during this extraordinary year at TASOK!
Paula Baxter
Elementary Principal

Theory of Knowledge Exhibition – Grade 11

Garrett Austin – IB History/MYP & DP

On Friday, May 21, TASOK hosted the Theory of Knowledge (TOK) exhibition for the 11th grade DP students. The exhibition explores how TOK manifests in the world around us, and students base it on one of the TOK themes studied during class: knowledge and the knower, knowledge and religion, or knowledge and politics.



The TOK exhibition is an internal assessment component—it is marked by the teacher and is externally moderated by the IB. Internal assessment is an integral part of all DP courses. It enables students to demonstrate the application of their skills and knowledge, and to pursue their personal interests. For this task, students were required to create their exhibition using three objects that connect to one of the 35 “IA Prompts” provided by the IB. Students must

select just one IA prompt on which to base their exhibition, and all three objects must be linked to the same IA prompt. Accompanying the objects is a written commentary that describes what the object is and how it is personally connected to the student, a justification for why they have included it in the exhibition, and an explanation of how it connects to the prompt that the student selected.

This was the first year of the TOK exhibition, replacing the TOK presentation from the old curriculum. Our students exceeded all expectations for the depth of their analysis, the personal relevance all of their exhibitions showed, and their professionalism and poise while discussing their chosen prompts and responses. Thank you to all the parents, teachers, and students that were able to come to experience the exhibition and learn how TOK manifests in the world around us.



Sample TOK Exhibition Prompts

What are the implications of having, or not having, knowledge?

Are some types of knowledge less open to interpretation than others?

How can we know that current knowledge is an improvement upon past knowledge?

What role does imagination play in producing knowledge about the world?



Save The Planet's Journey

By Olivia van den Bulck, Grade 5

I thought Grade 5 was the same as Grade 4 till the PYP Exhibition (PYPX) came along. I thought it was awesome ... till we started arguing about our action! After weeks of collaboration (and arguing!) we arrived at the decision to make a club. Miho and I jumped out of our chairs thinking of our old club STP: Save The Planet. We thought with our PYPX group (5 trees) that this club would take place at TASOK. We didn't have a clear idea about what we would do till I sent Ms. Paula an email:



I would like to ask you something about our PYPX action. My group and I would like to re-start the STP club (Save the TASOK Forest, maybe you remember from last year?. We know that it has been tight with Covid-19 but we promise that this club will be prepared, these are our agreements related to Covid - social distancing, mask on, wash hands. We would like to spend our time in the forest by doing: plant 1 tree and make it grow, clean the forest up, and everything that relates to making the TASOK forest a better place.

From, Olivia.



STP collect trash at lunchtimes on Tuesday and Friday





Of course, Ms. Paula's beautiful answer was "yes". I was delighted, so was my group. After weeks of planning the STP idea came to life .

STP was the beginning of an adventure full of wonders. Children from different grades made a reunion in the best way. We picked up all the trash we could find. Your trash might have been picked up by STP...if you're still dropping? There is beauty in this club and teamwork. You might think trash is just trash, but no it is not. It is poison for living things and you know what it is horrible and all we have to do is get that trash away from our beautiful environment . The climate is rising so are our plastics and we of all people should know that there is something more beautiful than a land full of polluted plastic bottles and candy wrappers.

And you know you what?



STP collected these five bags of trash from the elementary play areas!



STP takes responsibility for your trash - but what are you doing to take responsibility for yourself?



STP collected these five bags of trash from the parking lot!

Helping all children to reach their potential at TASOK

By Tommy Sheldrick, Elementary Learning Support Teacher

This year has brought about excitement and achievement on many levels; however, the global exposure to COVID-19 pushed TASOK to new heights and challenged us to a whole new dimension of teaching and learning. Our learning support team, along with the rest of the school community bravely embarked on this journey driven by determination to keep inquiry and a love for learning at the forefront of what we do.

Those students receiving additional support at TASOK, embarked on an amazing learning journey. They adapted to the changing times and demonstrated determination to succeed with their individual targets and personal goals. Working alongside some of our students are our learning support 1:1 aides. Here is what some of them had to say about this year:



“I love working with my student, because it gives me an opportunity to see her become more independent in her reading, writing and research skills. Working as a specialist learning support aide has been a privilege, as I get to focus on helping my student grow and meet her individual target areas.” ~ Ms. Salem Mvumbi



“I have loved working with my student, because I can see the difference from when we started and how we ended. I can see how he has grown both as a learner, and how he can take responsibility for his learning.” ~ Ms. Lina Ngalula

“Working as a specialist support aide has been a fabulous privilege, as I get to learn and offer my support to see my student grow and transform his learning into action.” ~ Mr. Fabrice Sembo



“What I enjoy about this position is the knowledge that I am able to handle difficult situations. I also like being able to work directly with my student, as I can learn a lot from him, too.” ~ Ms. Christelle Massa



“What I enjoy the most about working as a 1:1 aide, is the ability to be able to help whenever needed, and see my student’s growth and improvements each day.” ~ Ms. Aimee Mwela

Inclusion is an ongoing process that aims to increase access and engagement in learning for all students by identifying and removing barriers; a key focus for all students, and a delicate process for those requiring additional support services. With such a diverse range of learners in the Elementary at TASOK, it is our goal to respond to changing needs; changing times and better prepare our students for their future.



From L to R:
Christelle Massa, Lina Ngalula, Tommy Sheldrick, Aimee Mwela, Fabrice Sembo, Salem Mvumbi

TASOK Association General Meeting (AGM) – May 9, 2021

Thank you to those families that joined us for the May Association General Meeting in the CAC. This is an opportunity to share Association Business with the TASOK Community to review Board Goals, the Director's Report, IB Programme updates, TASOK Budget updates, Master Plan updates, and general information about the school's next steps.

In addition, TASOK Board Elections take place during this event.

*Congratulations to our new TASOK Board Members that will begin in August, and a **HUGE THANK YOU** to our current Board Members for their ongoing dedication to TASOK.*

For more information on Association/Board updates, please visit: <https://tasok.net/board-of-directors/>

Position	Elected	Votes
Board Chair	Nate Hulley	31
Board Vice President	Susan Girois	29
Board Treasurer	Inaya Younes Tarhini	32
Board Secretary	Anjali Abraham	30
Board USG Representative	Michele Barker	32
Board Missionary Representative	Jonathan de Jongh	30
Board Member at Large	Erik Akerman	32
Total of 33 Voters = 21 Online Votes + 12 In Person Votes		

Grade 7 Career Day

1

For something a little different, grade 7 designed their own unit of inquiry for their final unit of work this year. In teams of three, they made plans based on personal interests and what they wanted to learn about. Then we had a vote. Et voilà! Students are considering what they want for themselves in the future, and to this end will be researching how they can reach their prospective career goals.



2

So then we decided to ask the experts. We discovered many of the parents of the grade 7 students have interesting jobs. So we learnt how to write a formal letter, and invited people to come and answer our questions regarding their career paths.

3

We were very lucky that many parents, friends of parents, and even some TASOK support staff agreed to be on our 13-strong panel of career experts.



4

In preparation, we practised making up lots of questions, we learnt about closed questions and open questions, and we learnt the power of both types of questions. We were ready!

5

Career Day was fascinating thanks to the vast array of experience among the panel. We had architects, a property developer, embassy managers and attachés (both Swedish and American), a journalist and spokesman for Monusco, foreign aid workers, an animal scientist, a city planner, an IT manager, an electrician, and a UN firefighter (and yes, he brought his fire truck!). Most of our guests were on their second, or even third career. They had all done many other different types of jobs in the past, from McDonald's, to politics, to teaching. Grade 7 students asked some great questions, and learnt a lot about the university degrees they might consider, jobs they didn't even know existed and of course, how to hold a water hose when putting out a fire!

6

The final part of Career Day was writing another formal letter. This one was to thank our visitors for taking time out of what we learnt were very busy schedules, to come and answer our questions.

Julie Baxter & Rachel Eells

English Language & Literature teachers



Business Office

Attention TASOK families,

We just completed the billing cycle for all returning families, and want to make sure that you complete and return the tuition agreements on time. This information will help us plan ahead for the school opening in August and set up the tuition accounts accordingly.

Note that all transmission is done electronically via email. Contact us if you have not received the re-enrollment documents from us.



All accounts must be in order: no tuition nor penalty owed, no library unpaid fines. Once all is clear, the registrar will have the green light to issue report cards, transfer documents and leaving packets, etc...

Admission/Enrollment 2021-2022 for new students is still open. The rates for 2021-2022 are published on our website [Tuition & Registration Fees 2021-2022](#). We encourage you to apply now if you are considering enrolling siblings or re-joining TASOK. Seats are filling up very quickly.

Yearbooks are on sale at the cashier's office. You can purchase and receive your copy at the same time.

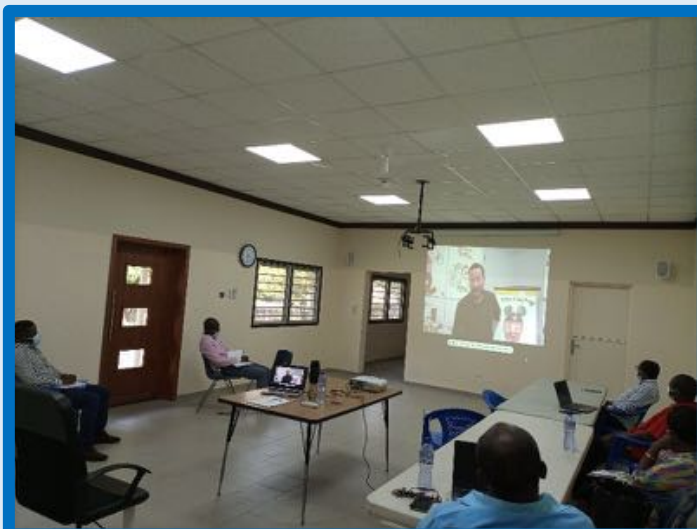
JUNE Important Dates

- Financial Aid Application closes June 1 (today). [Financial Aid](#)
- Re-enrollment deposits are due by June 1 (today).
- Deadline to return signed tuition agreements is June 4 (Friday).
- Request Receipts/Forms for UN/WB Education grants by June 11.
- The business office closes for in-person transactions on June 25.

For **answers to your questions**, you can schedule a phone or zoom appointment with me, Karen Laplanche, Email: business@tasok.net | +(243) 81-880-1330 | www.tasok.net



Stay informed. Visit our website [Business Office](#) for details on current tuition rates, payment plans and education loans at local banks. [Link to ED Loans](#).



We continue to learn in order to improve our services to the TASOK Community. Here's a glimpse of a training session for the business officers. The staff watches and comments on the 2021 NBOA conference keynote speaker Duncan Wardle's speech "EMBEDDING A CULTURE OF INNOVATION INTO EVERYONE'S DNA". This is very fitting to the times of adjustments we are living.

Nurse's Corner Cell +243 817 252 011

Nathalie Katalayi- TASOK Nurse

Should Someone in Your Family/Household Test Positive for COVID-19:

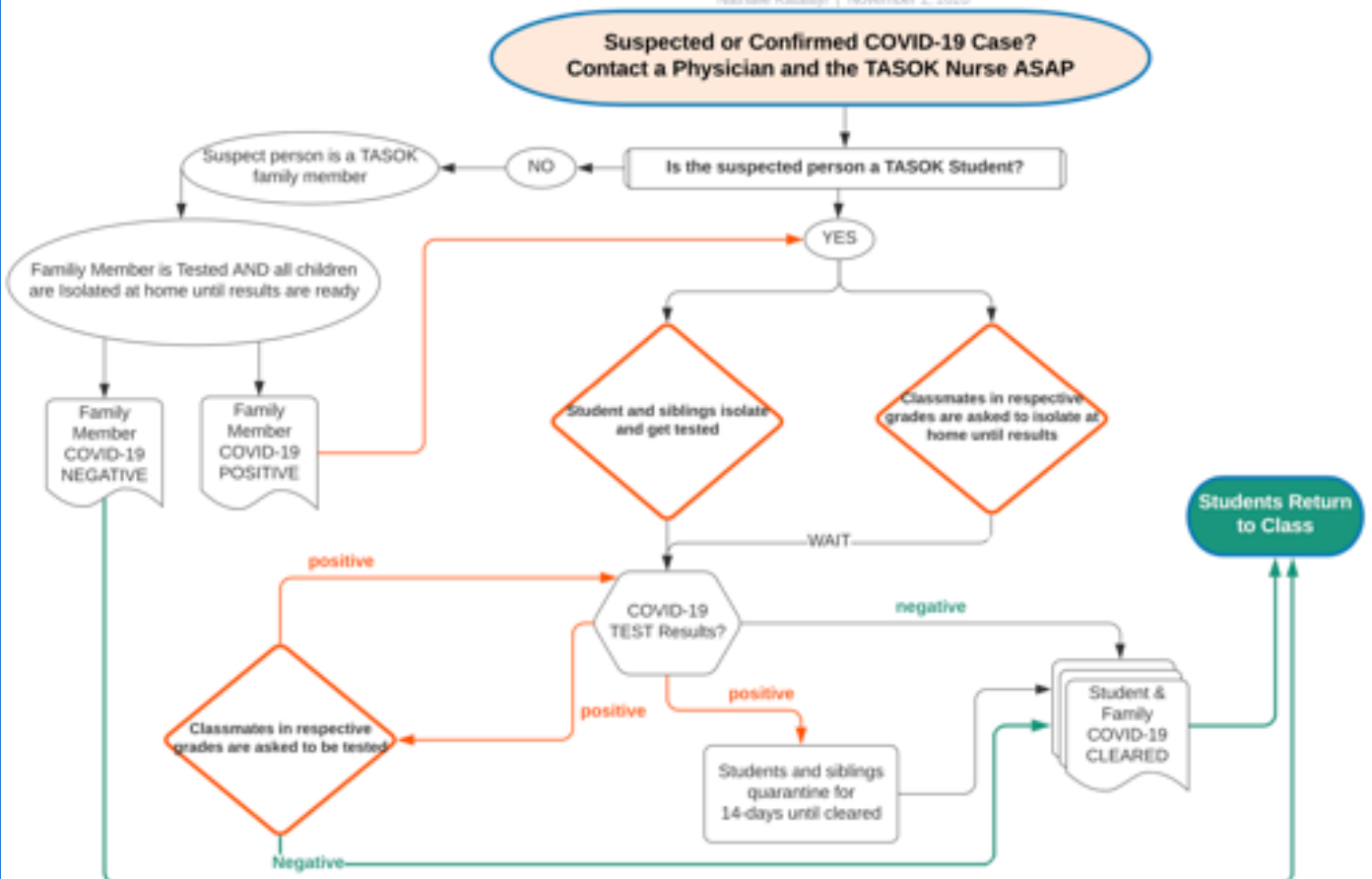
1. Keep your child and all siblings home from school and isolate.
2. Immediately consult a doctor and have everyone in the household tested for COVID-19
 1. This includes all TASOK students (regardless of age)
 2. This includes all family members in the household
3. Immediately inform the school of your situation and all symptom/testing details so that we can start the contact tracing process.
4. Quarantine as recommended for up to 14 days until all family members retest negative.
5. Provide the Nurse with a negative COVID-19 test result and follow instructions.
6. Students will not be allowed to return until all family members have tested negative.

Should a Family Member of a Student in Your Child's Class Test Positive for COVID-19:

1. Once the school is notified (Step 3 above), we will ask the remainder of students in that grade level (and teacher) to stay home and isolate until the student in question has COVID test results submitted to the school (Step 2 above).
 1. If the test result is **POSITIVE** - the remaining students in that grade level (and teacher) will be required to have a COVID-19 test **AND** all siblings will be asked to remain at home until the test results are in.
 2. If the test result is **NEGATIVE** - the remaining students in that grade level (and teacher) will return to school and resume normal instruction.

COVID-19 Safety Protocol DRAFT v1

Nathalie Katalayi | November 1, 2020



TASOK Continues to reinforce the follow at school, are you doing the same at home?

3 W's to reduce risk of COVID-19

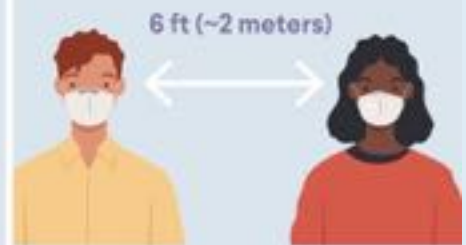
Wear a mask



Wash your hands



Watch your distance



COVID-19 **RESOLVE**
TO SAVE LIVES



More info at
[PreventEpidemics.org](https://www.PreventEpidemics.org)

#KnowCOVID
#PreventEpidemics

Teach your kids about the 3W's or 3M's

Les **3 M** pour réduire les risques de COVID-19

Masque mis



Mains bien lavées



Maintenir la distance



COVID-19 **RESOLVE**
TO SAVE LIVES



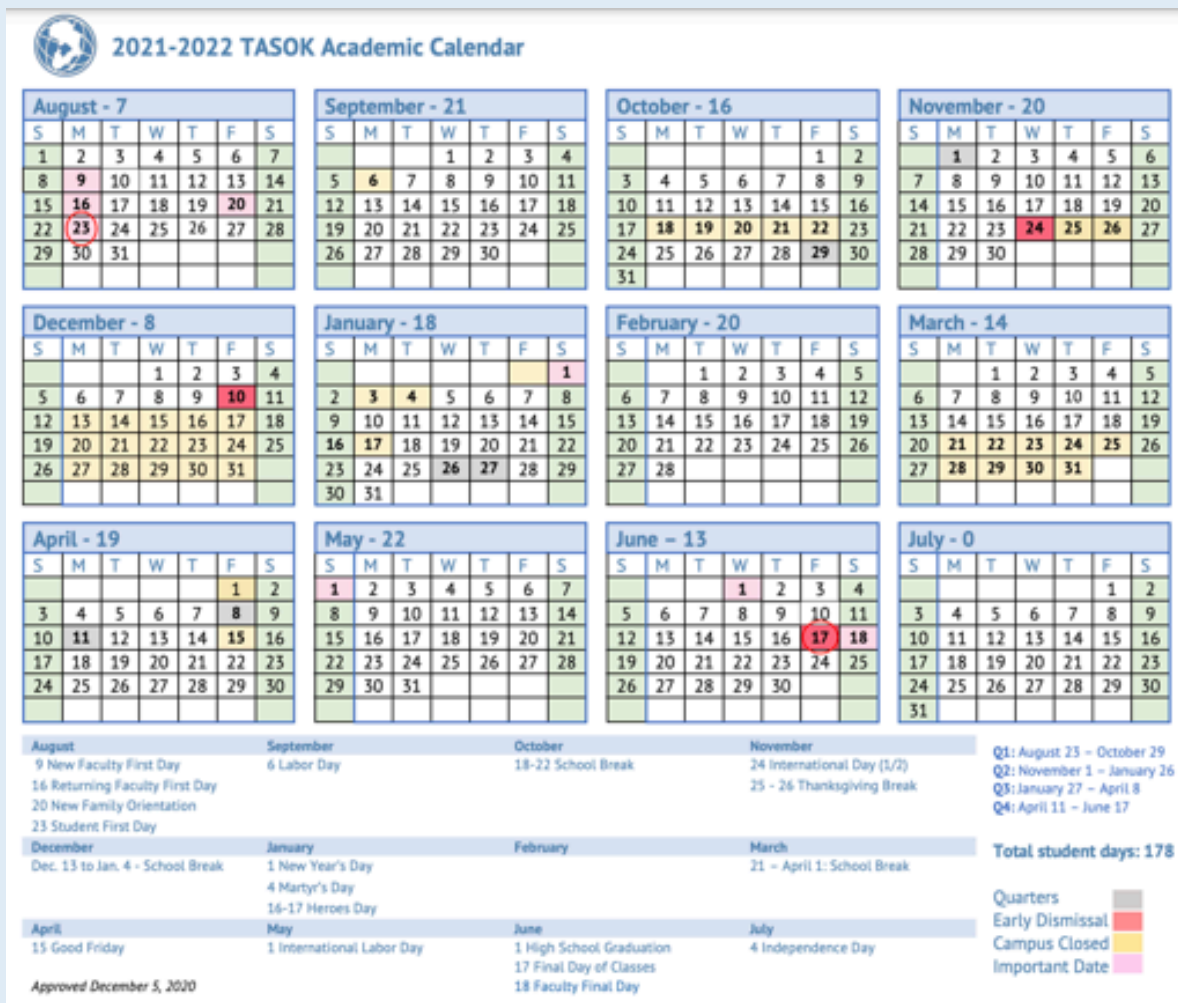
Plus d'informations sur
[PreventEpidemics.org](https://www.PreventEpidemics.org)

#KnowCOVID
#PreventEpidemics

If you travel, please ensure you notify the school nurse and follow the new guidelines for reducing your quarantine to 7-days:
[TASOK Reduced Quarantine Guidelines Link](#)

TASOK 2021-2022 Academic Calendar (Next Year!)

Also found at: <https://tasok.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/TASOK-2021-2022-Approved-Academic-Calendar.pdf>



Upcoming Events:

- June 2nd – TASOK Graduation
- June 11th – Grade 5 Transition Ceremony
- June 16th – Final Day of Classes (11:30 am release)
- August 20th – New Family Orientation
- August 23rd – All Students First Day

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Nelson Mandela



Website:
www.tasok.net



Contact:
 +243 818 846 619



Email:
info@tasok.net



Twitter
 @TASOKinshasa