



TASOK TALK - JUNE 2022

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Message from the Director - Graduation 2022!

Tonight we celebrate our graduating class of 2022 as they complete their learning journey here at TASOK, moving on to their next adventures all over the world!

As true practitioners of resilience, this group of 16 students have spent over half of their time in high school dealing with all that COVID has thrown their way (in addition to the IB). Still they thrived, and succeeded, ready to take on the world next year. We are truly proud, and blessed to be able to celebrate tonight together as a TASOK Community.

The end of the school year is quickly approaching and soon everyone will be looking ahead at what 2022/23 has to bring. Reflecting on the past few months, it is amazing to see all the activities that we were able to squeeze in from athletics, to PTC events, and even tournaments, as we work together to rebuild the strong sense of community here at TASOK.



Approaching these final two weeks of school, please continue to share any updates in your family's health so that we can ensure a successful end to the 2021/22 school year.

Yours in Education,

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.

MEET OUR TASOK TEAM!

We dedicate this space to celebrating all the amazing people at TASOK, supporting the school and TASOK Mission, making TASOK a great place to live, work, and learn! Each month we will share information about our team, some of whom work behind the scenes. Make sure to say 'hi' next time you see them on campus, and a quick 'thanks' for all they do for our community!

Interview with: David Mbumba



TASOK Atelier Team



Interview with: Serge Mianitse Buira



TASOK Business Office Inventory Officer



What do you do at TASOK?

I have been Tasok's Swimming Pool Caretaker for 37 years. I maintain the HS Boys and Girls Change Rooms and the Covered Court as well as marking the lines on the HS & ES School soccer fields. I am also part of the coaching staff for the High School and Middle School girls soccer teams as part of the ASA's at Tasok and the upcoming Tasok Soccer Tournament in June.

What do you do at TASOK?

I serve as the inventory officer for the Business Office (School Supplies and Fixed Assets). I am the Business Office IT support and liaison to the IT department.

How long have you worked at TASOK?

I started at Tasok in 1983 which is 39 years in total. I have seen many students going from PreSchool all the way to Grade 12. I have worked with many Directors and Maintenance Managers.

How long have you worked at TASOK?

I started at TASOK in 2009. So that makes 13 years already.

What province are you from/which Kinshasa commune do you live in?

I am originally from Kongo Central.I live in Ngaliema commune. Area Binza Ozone Quarter Nfinda Loya Ave. 44. I am happily married with seven children. I have 5 girls and 2 boys.

What province are you from/which Kinshasa commune do you live in?

I am from Goma in the North-Kivu province (DRC East). My first language is Swahili. I am also fluent in French and Lingala. In Kinshasa, I live in the area of Pompage in the Ngaliema Commune.

I've been married for 10 years and have 4 beautiful children (2 boys and 2 girls).

What do you appreciate about TASOK?

I appreciate the work I have been given at Tasok and being part of the sporting activities as a player, coach and referee. It has helped me raise my family over the years. Meeting people from all over the world has always been interesting.

What do you appreciate about TASOK?

I like the work environment and the way it aligns with TASOK's vision (Integrity, Inclusivity & Excellence). About Excellence, every year we have the opportunity to improve. I can see my own progress over the years, and our system has also improved for better coordination between departments.

What job accomplishment are you most proud of during

What job accomplishment are you most proud of during your

your time at TASOK?

Helping the security team look after Tasok during the 1991 Pillage of the DRC formerly known as Zaire because the security team was not big enough. The Security Wall was also different then as it was a Diamond Mesh Fence which allowed people to see into the school property which made the security work more challenging at the time. There was one day when none of the Tasok Soccer coaches arrived for the Soccer Tournament which I had to manage myself and share the refereeing of the games played that day with other visiting coaches. I have enjoyed being part of many Sporting Tournaments at Tasok and I am looking forward to being part of the upcoming Soccer Tournament in June that Tasok will host after a two year break as a result of Covid 19. It is also really great sharing my Culture with the students in the CAC during Congo Week.

time at TASOK?

I established a better system of communication for delivery with the maintenance department. With the rigorous procedures of inventory and control, I am able to implement the tasks and see the results right away.

The big highlight is the dispatch of overseas supplies to classrooms, offices and residences at the start of every school-year. It is a massive endeavor that requires good coordination and teamwork.



What are you most proud of in the DRC?

I am proud of the Cultural Diversity of the DRC with 200 ethnic languages and over 400 dialects.

What do you do as a hobby?

I really enjoy playing soccer at home and here at Tasok with the students and staff after hours. I tried playing the guitar and the piano but I realized that my music happened when playing soccer and being part of scoring goals that made the players and spectators sing and dance.

What are you most proud of in the DRC?

I like the generosity of the people. Congolese people are very welcoming. I particularly like the city of Goma. It's a beautiful city bursting with new constructions and where food is always available and cheap.

What do you do as a hobby?

During my free time, I practice Taekwondo. I like Math, Programming and Technology. I assist some children in the family and neighborhood with Math questions or problems.

With Taekwondo, I had the opportunity of offering 2 after-school activities to students at TASOK in Elementary School this year. It was a great experience, especially with the youngest. It was a learning process to effectively manage Kindergarteners and first graders; definitely a challenge to keep fun and order.

What do you appreciate in your current position?

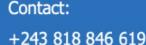
I appreciate being part of the good Team at Tasok working together as one community that helps students with a great learning experience at Tasok through Sport and Education.

What do you appreciate in your current position?

The communication within the business office creates a good teamwork mentality. We help each other get better. I like the flexibility and opportunities to work in other areas such as the safety team (morning drop-offs), IT (joint interventions), Atelier (constant dispatching and equipment movement) and office (supplies delivery).

Website:











Message from Lesley Peacock, Secondary School Principal

This is the last TASOK TALK entry for me, as I will be leaving to begin a new position as Secondary Principal in Malawi. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the TASOK Community for their support, open mindedness and positive spirit during the past three years that I have worked at TASOK.

During this time I have learned a great deal from my experiences at the school through my interactions with the staff, students, and parents and through the development of the IB Programme. I leave with lasting memories of our wonderful student body, their smiles (although unfortunately during most of my time behind masks) and zest for life. This culminated during the Senior Prom that I attended last night when I watched a cohesive, dynamic group of admirable individuals enjoying their last few days of TASOK. I wish you all the best for the future, as I'm sure that TASOK will continue to grow and flourish.



Summer Reading

Vitna Bailey - PYP coordinator

Did you know many children enjoy summer reading? Summer can be a special time for children reading books they want to read and creating memorable experiences with family and friends while reading!

There are many different reading programs available during the summer and you can visit local libraries wherever you are.

Summer is for Choice



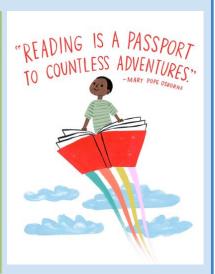
53% of kids say they enjoy reading over the summer



70% say it is because they get to read whatever and whenever they want!



92% of kids say they are more likely to read a book they self-select



Sometimes too many choices can be confusing, so I'd like to introduce two summer reading programs that are well known and free.

Capstone Summer Adventure Camp

Capstone is an educational publisher for digital solutions, children's books, and literacy programs for school libraries and classrooms. PebbleGo™ is one of their products you might be familiar with.

They are offering 20 ebooks for each theme, a total of 120 free books through the summer. Scan the QR code to go to their website and start seeing what's on their choice boards! https://www.capstonepub.com/summerchoiceboards

No login or password needed for this program. Great reading experience is just one click away!





Scholastic Summer Reading

The world's largest publisher and distributor of children's books, Scholastic has a popular summer reading program. Go to Scholastic Home Base and create an account for FREE! Children can visit the summer zone where they can read books and stories; attend author events; interact with their favorite characters; play book-based games and activities; join dance parties; and more. It's available through August 19. https://kids.scholastic.com/kid/homebase/

Scholastic will donate up to 100,000 books to children with limited or no access to books. They will donate one book each time a student reads and records their reading two days in a row!







Please join the Green Team in assisting to keep TASOK beautiful and free of trash!

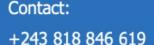
This past year, the students of the Green Team ASA have collected over 60kg of trash on TASOK's amazing campus! That's too much! We need everyone to do their part and be responsible. Thank you

- 800+ plastic bottles collected & recycled
- 600+ masks! (gross!)
- Majority of trash/recyclables collected GreenTeam believed to be generated within the walls of TASOK)

Thanks Green Team!!!

Website: www.tasok.net











For your questions, any suggestions, possible solutions, interested in volunteering, or concerns please contact Phil Marchant, Green Team ASA Supervisor – pmarchant@tasok.net





Deep in the heart of the African Jungle, You can hear the Condors rumble, GO TASOK, GO TASOK, GO!!

It has been a busy month as all our Soccer teams have put their practices and skills to the test. Since the beginning of May, each team has played a weekly friendly game against a local school here at TASOK. It has been great to see action once again on the soccer fields as well as numerous students and parents coming out to cheer on the teams. The TASOK spirit is alive and well!





Night Run 2021-2022

Stefan Bergh - Secondary PE / Athletic Director

On Friday, May 6, TASOK community members gathered on the SS field to celebrate health and wellness in a fun environment with The Night Run!

This is an annual event in which a 2km Fun Run and a 5km Competitive race are run around the trails of TASOK. This year we had a record number of participants with over 150 community members coming out to take part. It was a great night as we watched participants wearing headlights and glow sticks running the TASOK trails.

Congratulations to the winner of each event:

2km Fun Run

1st Female: Amelia Mazal Tuisinu

1st Male: Winston Russel
2nd Female: Amelle Akerman

2nd Male: Pierre-Louis Buysschaert

3rd Female: Penelope Robison3rd Male: Charles Steinmetz



5km Competitive Race

1st Female: Paulina Lauble

1st Male: Felix Guevara

2nd Female: Jessica van der Merwe

2nd Male: David Tshibangu3rd Female: Lina Dieng3rd Male: Oliver Eells







The '2022 Senior Prom' was a HIT!

The graduating class of 2022 would like to thank the following sponsors for their financial and material support in organizing the TASOK 2022 Prom. We were overjoyed to be able to hold this event again after such a long time and these companies have made it possible!

















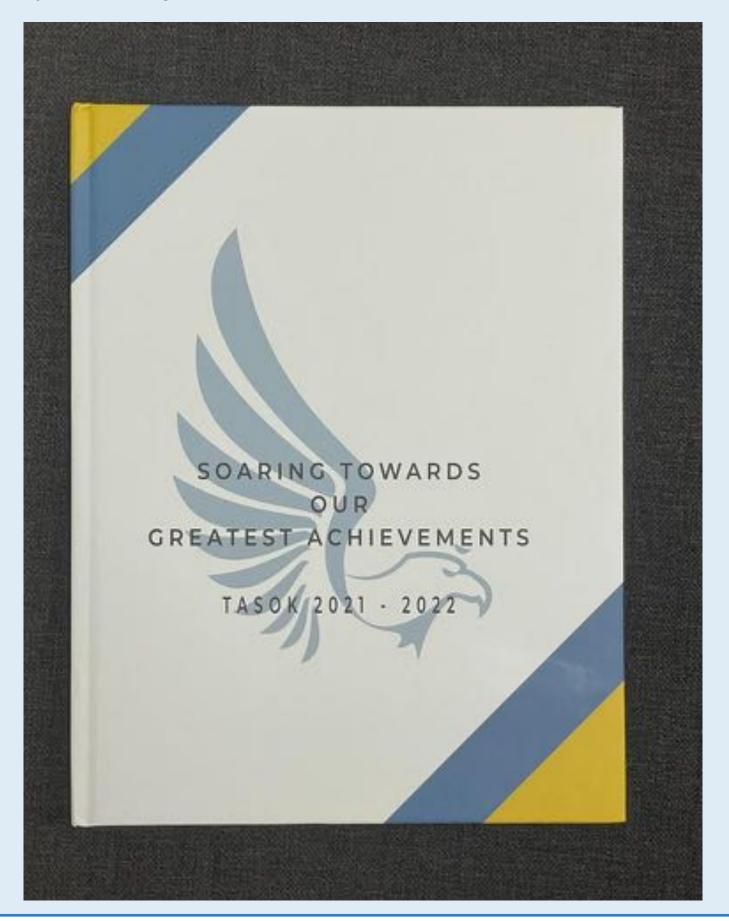






YEARBOOKS ARE AVAILABLE!

Get your 2022 'Special Edition' now in the Cashier's Office: Cost \$40









Contact:

+243 818 846 619







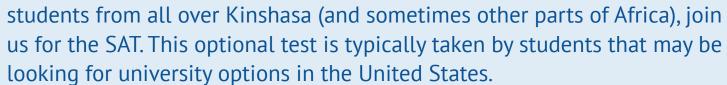
COLLEGE CORNER – Celebrating our Senior Class of 2022!

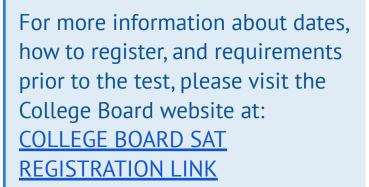
Julie Mullen – College Counselor

Congratulations to our graduating class of 2022 on their college/university acceptance! This year's mighty group of 16 seniors were accepted to a variety of institutions around the world!

The 2022-2023 International SAT Dates are HERE!

TASOK is the only SAT (*Scholastic Aptitude Test*) center for students in the DRC. As such, we see





What's Next?

The grade 12's are on their way to starting the next chapter and we wish them all the best!

2022-23 School Year Test Dates

SAT Test Date*	Deadline for Registration Changes, and Regular Cancellation
Aug 27, 2022	Jul 29, 2022
Oct 1, 2022	Sep 2 2022
Dec 3, 2022	Nov 3, 2022
Mar 11, 2023 (<u>Digital</u>)**	Feb 24, 2023
May 6, 2023 (<u>Digital</u>)**	Apr 21, 2023
June 3, 2023 (<u>Digital</u>)**	May 19, 2023
*Your registration options will be limi purposes.	ted if you aren't <u>taking the SAT for one of its main</u>
	o need to borrow a device from College Board will need arlier than the registration deadline, to allow time for

Grade 11's - It is your time to shine!

Please continue to have great discussions with your parents and share information about your Bridge-U planning and resources with your parents. The summer months are a great time to narrow down some criteria that will play a role in your decisions next year.

Once we return in mid-August, we will continue the next step in college planning meetings and narrowing your choices for applications.

In the meantime, if you are planning on considering the U.S. for college choices, consider registering for the **August 27, 2022 SAT test.** The deadline to register online is **July 29, 2022.**





TASOK ELEMENTARY STUDENT COUNCIL (ES StuCo)

Mike Bailey- Elementary Principal Second Semester ES Student Council Updates

Family Fun Day - STEAM Festival- Latest Iteration!

For community well-being we are taking a new approach to our family fund day activities and STEAM Fest.

STEAM Fest is now STEAM Week- Events will take place in the green space where Music Fridays take place. Parents are welcome to come in for the assemblies and sharing.

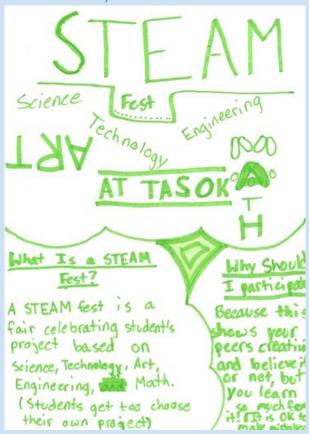
Monday - Science and Technology

Tuesday - Engineering and Math

On both days we will look at each day starting at 8:15 and then have a short assembly followed by the open tables for shared experiments and projects

Wednesday- Arts- French and Music performances- Possibly other music related guests.

This will be an outdoor assembly where French and Music will perform. We still have to work out a few technical issues)



Additional upcoming Events-

Jun 6-10- ES students will have Water Games in place of the color run. Ms. Jenny will send out information about which PE class for each class this will take place for.

June 13- Mystery Monday- Classes will participate in the StuCo Scavenger hunt











TASOK Secondary Student Council

Kelley Marchant - Advisor

Ending a great beginning for our new Secondary Student Council!

Our new and improved Student Council has worked hard this year in the midst of many obstacles to develop a stronger community while putting together new events and restarting old traditions. Special thanks to Yoanna Toulou for the redevelopment of our Student Council and to Abdallah Tarhini as our President and Sam Girois as our Vice President. It was a bumpy road at times, but we're proud of the new beginning and we're looking forward to many great activities and events next year. We're still hoping to get a couple staff vs. student sporting events up and running June 6-10 after school! See you next year!

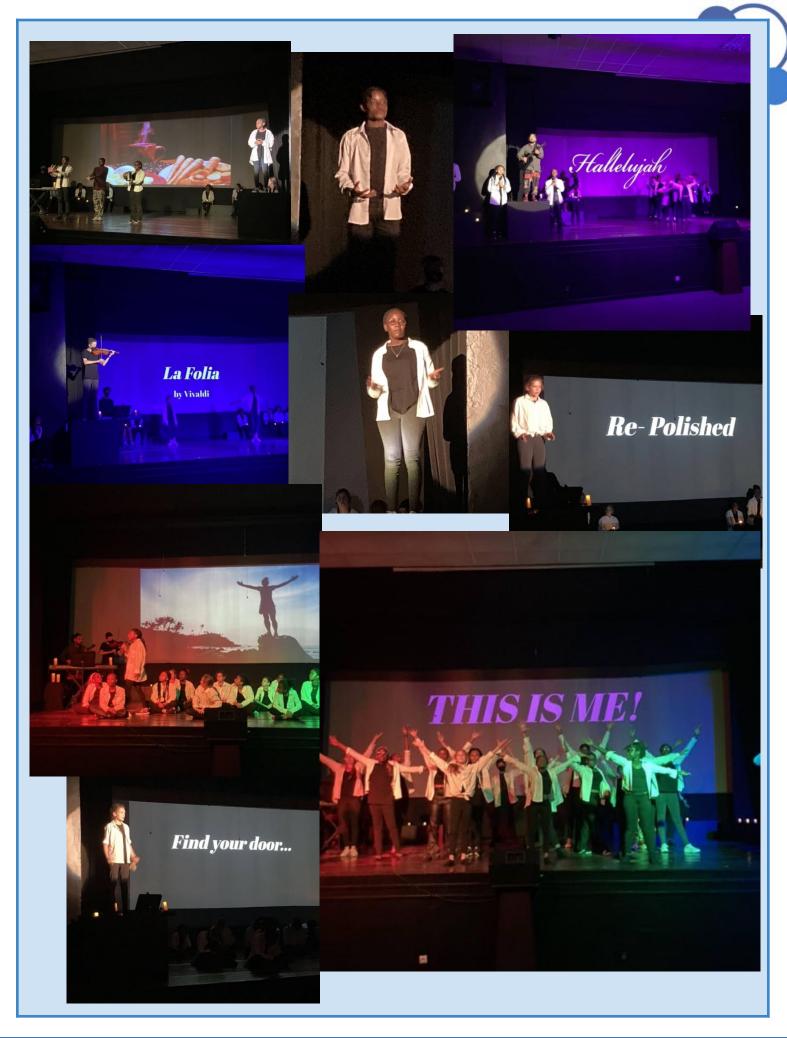


TASOK PERFORMING ARTS presents RESILIENCE

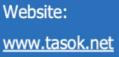
Kelley Marchant - Director

TASOK Performing Arts was excited to produce its first production in two years. The performance took place May 19-21st and featured more than 30 5th-11th grade students. The performance was an original piece featuring dance, song, poetry and spoken word with a message revolving around Resilience. Our students worked extremely hard and did a fantastic job with all three performances. Thanks to the TASOK community for their support of our production and we look forward to more in the future!



















MYP Coordinator Update

Kelley Marchant - MYP Coordinator

As we come to the end of our first year as a fully accredited MYP Program, I want to thank the TASOK community for your support of our program, it's rigor, and the new standards in helping our students excel both academically and personally. We are looking forward to our MYP Awards Assembly on Monday, June 13th where we will give IB Learner Profile Awards to each grade and send off our Grade 10's into the DP Program. It has been a privilege to help students, parents and teachers as we grow and learn together. I look forward to more contact next year with Parent Workshops in the fall and other activities that will help us all move forward successfully as a learning community. I hope everyone has a restful and enjoyable summer!

TASOK Cafeteria Services Planning for 2022/23



We are still reaching out to our TASOK Community for those interested in putting in a tender for food services in the TASOK Canteen. Proposals will need to adhere to criterion including:

- Healthy Options & Reasonable Costs
- Minimal Packaging
 Waste (recyclable products)
- Ability to manage online menus & payments
- Off-Site
 Preparation following strict
 Health & Safety Standards.

If you are in the food service industry and would like to be contacted as more information is put together about the tender process, please send an email with your information to: canteen@tasok.net

May is the month for Marriages & Memories!

Celebrating two weddings this month:

Raymond and Dabelle Kilonda Raymond is the TASOK Cashier who has worked at TASOK for four and a half years.

Married: May 28, 2022



Chuma & Nathalie Mweze

Chuma works as a TASOK Inventory Officer for the past three and a half years.

Married: May 21, 2022



Newest Member of the TASOK Family:

Please welcome Shiphra Omba, born to our very own Abigail Kitakani on May 11, 2022. Both are doing well and enjoying their time at home with the rest of the family. Abigail has worked at TASOK as the PYP/MYP Art Teaching Assistant.









The PTC Place

A <u>HUGE THANK YOU</u> to all the parents that supported the PTC this year through a year of focusing on rebuilding the sense of community at TASOK. We had some great successes and are already planning for next year!



The purpose of the TASOK Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) is to create a supportive and sustainable relationship between all members of TASOK to create a strong sense of community through open communication, initiatives, and event planning.

Join the PTC WhatsApp Group!

Join using the following link: https://chat.whatsapp.com/H4un570fjq3GMh9h1XZaru or send a WhatsApp asking to join the PTC Committee WhatsApp to +243995594012

We are looking for parents to join and start planning for the start of the 2022/23 school year!

PTC Cocktail Event - May 21, 2022











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Business Office News

Kareen Laplanche - Finance Manager

Preparing for 2022-2023 School-Year

We just completed the invoicing process for returning families. Tuition agreements and re-enrollment deposits are due by this Friday June 3. We distributed the documents electronically to addresses in the students' accounts. If you have not received an invoice or have trouble completing the tuition agreement, contact us as soon as possible for assistance.

Our office will remain open for regular business until June 24. After this date, we will work with a reduced staff and offer limited services.

Take note to plan accordingly.

Returning Students Timeline



Financial Aid Applications for 2022/23

This is the last day to submit applications for Financial Aid to support tuition costs for 2022-23. Carefully follow the instructions, fill out the form and submit the required documents for the committee's review.

FA Application (English version)

Demande d'Assistance Financière (version française)













Website:

Payment Options - Reminder

TASOK offers families and companies the convenience of making tuition payments online. To provide this method of payment, we partner with Diamond Mind/Community Brands, an independent school payment service provider. All payment information is completely secure using the highest security standards in the industry.

WEBSITE OPTION

Go to the school website's "Payment Portal" link, or enter it directly clicking here: PAYMENT PORTAL

- Sign-up to set up an online account;
- Enter student first name, last name and ID with payment information; the student ID # is on the invoice;
- Submit payment. Payment acceptance methods and any fees associated with an electronic payment are outlined in the payment portal.
- You can find common answers to online tuition payment questions at http://diamondmindinc.com/parentFAO/.

MOBILE OPTION

You can also pay using our mobile payment app: MySchoolWallet

Signing into the MySchoolWallet App for the first time?

- Go to the App Store on your phone.
- Search for MySchoolWallet and install.
- Complete your profile and select
 The American School of Kinshasa as your school and hit PAY.
- You will see various events and departments, listed as payment types. Select one of the payment types and follow the onscreen directions. Be sure to complete the student's name and fill out the NOTE with what the payment is for (for example, Tuition or Student).
 - Store, Event, etc...)
- Please check the box "I would like to absorb processing costs so that the school receives my whole payment." Each transaction incurs a processing cost from the bank.
- Once your transaction has gone through, you will receive an email confirmation and receipt.

Note that payments can be made via credit card (worldwide), debit card or echeck (for US accounts only). For online payments, receipts are automatically generated after each transaction.

BANKING OPTION

- Direct deposits (cash or check) at bank counters into TASOK's account are accepted.
- Wire or ACH transfers are accepted.
- Online banking from your bank DRC or US bank to ours is possible. Check with your institution for options available to you.
- Most US transfer options work: wire, ACH, e-check, BillPay, Zelle, etc... These options are only available for US transactions, not international.
- Once the transaction is complete, send the confirmation to us.





ON CAMPUS OPTION

- TASOK has an ATM station on campus. The ATM machine is located just outside of the Administration Building.
- TASOK Cashier Office accepts debit and credit cards for payments via POS. Both ATM & POS accept VISA ® & Mastercard ®.
- TASOK Cashier Office accepts paper checks issued to The American School of Kinshasa. Checks from a local DRC or US bank are accepted.

Help is available at the office to help you navigate the TASOK website and experiment with the tuition portal or the mobile app! If you need copies of invoices/agreements or would like a receipt for your payment, please email accounts@tasok.net.



Stav informed

Visit the Business Office page <u>link</u> for details on Tuition Rates, Payment Plans, Financial Aid Application for 2022/23, and Educational Loans at Local Banks.

For questions/comments, contact us at <u>business@tasok.net</u> | +(243) 81-880-1330 |







Contact:





Email:

Website:

Nurse's Corner Cell +243 817 252 011

Nathalie Katalayi – TASOK Nurse: <u>nurse@tasok.net</u>

At TASOK, we continue to reinforce the following at school, are you doing the same at home?







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

The 2022/23 Academic Calendar is Here! Also found on our TASOK website <u>LINK!</u>



TASOK CALENDAR OF EVENTS ALSO FOUND AT: https://tasok.net/events-calendar/



Last Modified: May 31, 2022 - SOME DATES & EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE

Upcoming Events:

June 1 - Graduation 2022

Website:

- June 10 Grade 5 Moving Up Ceremony
- June 13 MYP Awards Assembly

- June 17 Final Day of Classes (11:30 dismissal)
- June 18 August 14 Summer Break!

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









