



The American School of Kinshasa TASOK TALK – NOVEMBER 2023

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Grade 3 Assembly

Message from the Director:

If you were able to join us last Friday for the grade 3 assembly, students shared their learning from “Where We Are in Place and Time”, being *risk takers*, *caring*, and *collaborative* members of our community! The students got our parents up out of their seats for a fun competition (*adult risk-takers*), showing how they can use evidence of past civilizations to make connections to present-day societies. Additionally, the students modeled how we can be caring at school with examples of problem resolution and being caring on the playground. Thank you grade 3!

3-Way Conferences are coming up this Friday and principals have sent out detailed information via ManageBac with times and schedules to help accommodate the many families we have with siblings. The purpose of Three-way conferences is **to celebrate students' learning and identify goals that will improve their progress**. The 3- Way conference is an internationally accepted method of giving students responsibility for their learning and strengthening the partnership between parents, teachers, and students.

Thank you in advance for attending this important event!

Be safe, be well, be kind,

Dan Mullen - TASOK Director

Secondary Volleyball Friendly



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:
Didier Mwika
Supervisor G4S/Tasok



Interview with:
Jeroulphe Swana Mbala
AC Cleaning and Cooling
Equipment Technician



What do you do at TASOK?
I supervise the G4S Security Team here at Tasok.

What do you do at TASOK?
I maintain the ac units here at Tasok

How long have you worked at TASOK?
I have worked here as a G4S Supervisor for 3 years.

How long have you worked at TASOK?
I have been working here 1 year and 8 months

What province are you from/which Kinshasa commune do you live in?
I am originally from Katanga province. I currently live in the Mont-Ngafula in Kinshasa (Mont is Mountain and Ngafula was the name of the Traditional Chief many, many years ago)

What province are you from/which Kinshasa commune do you live in?
I am originally from Kongo Central. I currently live in the Mont-Ngafula in Kinshasa in Lubaki street number 2 in Mbodi Quarter (Mont is Mountain and Ngafula was the name of the Traditional Chief many, many years ago)

What do you appreciate about TASOK?
I appreciate making sure that the Security is good to protect the important people at Tasok. I appreciate being able to do this.

What do you appreciate about TASOK?
I appreciate the way the work is organized and I know what I need to do for the day.

What job accomplishment are you most proud of during your time at TASOK?
I am proud of being part of the meetings and discussions with G4S and Tasok to improve the security at Tasok and seeing the new Main Gate and Second Gates being built and the installing the better Razor wire system on the Tasok Security Wall. It was also good to help with the Security while the new wall was being built.

What job accomplishment are you most proud of during your time at TASOK?
I am proud of the work I do keeping the AC units clean and helping the staff to work in a healthy environment.

What are you most proud of in the DRC?
I am proud of the hospitality that the people of the DRC show the visitors to the DRC. We enjoy sharing our rich culture with them from the Music and the Pagne and our beautiful Majestic Congo River.
What do you do as a hobby?
My hobby is to really enjoy playing with my children. It makes me very happy.

What are you most proud of in the DRC?
I am very proud of the beautiful forests of the DRC because of their fresh air that you can breathe when walking around them, like Kimpoko Forest on the way to Maluku.
What do you do as a hobby?
I enjoy playing soccer and listening to music.

What do you appreciate in your current position?
I really appreciate being the G4S Supervisor and working together with my team to make sure Tasok is secure.

What do you appreciate in your current position?
I really appreciate the relationships I have with the Tasok teachers and also the teachers that have left Tasok. It's good to be part of this Tasok Community.

IB Global Conference/Heads World Conference

Education for an inclusive future - Sarah Clover - Secondary Principal



This month the DP and MYP Coordinator and I had the opportunity to attend the IB Global Conference in Dublin, Ireland. With the theme, “Education for an inclusive future” it could not have been more fitting and useful in our journey as an inclusive IB Continuum School. Keynote speakers focused on 3 main areas; inclusive learning, social emotional learning and fostering DEIJ mindsets. We attended workshops and sessions led by; James Nottingham an expert on developing student growth mindsets, Sue Roffey well known for her work on social emotional learning and Wandile Mthiyane from Anti-Racist Hotdog fostering respect and diversity in education and workplace environments. Other focus areas included how we can use AI effectively and changes the IB is making as an organization to be increasingly inclusive in supporting the diversity of our students in schools around the world. We are excited to bring back ideas and engage with teachers, parents and students about how we can grow and build our inclusive environments at TASOK.

Introducing Sora (ebooks and audiobooks)

Leanne Edwards - Whole School Librarian

Students now have access to a large range of ebooks and audiobooks through Sora at TASOK. There are thousands of books from all genres and interest levels.

Everyone with a TASOK email has access already, simply visit soraapp.com and log in with your email address and the same password you set up for your email. There's even an app for your phone!

You need internet access to open a new book, but once it downloads you can continue reading even offline. Books are checked out for 2 weeks at a time, and you will automatically lose access after the 2 week period, but you can renew the book for longer if needed.

Here is information about how to access these resources:

Website:
www.tasok.net



Contact:
+243 818 846 619



Email:
info@tasok.net



Twitter
[@TASOKinshasa](https://twitter.com/TASOKinshasa)

Getting started with Sora



With Sora, you can get free ebooks and audiobooks from your school.

1

Install the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store, or go to soraapp.com.

2

In Sora, find your school (or enter your school's setup code), then sign in.

3

ebooksnowafrica

Browse the **Explore** tab and borrow a book. Your book will open so you can start reading right away.

4

Close the book and go to your **Shelf** to see all your books (including assignments). From there, you can:

- Tap **Open Book** or **Open Audiobook** to read or listen to the book.
- Tap **Options** to renew or return the book, get to your notes and highlights, and more.

<https://soraapp.com/library/ebooksnowafrica>

Elementary - Secondary Science Collaboration

Ms. Blair, Grade 4 Teacher, and Ms. Ortiz, Secondary Science Teacher

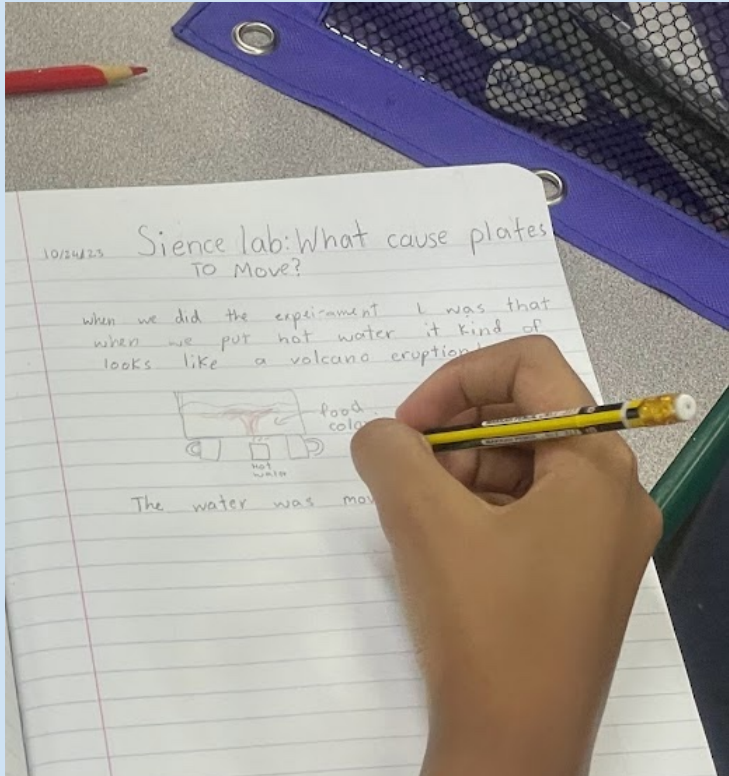
As part of our unit of inquiry into How the World Works, Grade 4 visited the secondary school science lab to model convection currents! These are what cause Earth's mantle to move, leading to volcanoes, earthquakes and much more.

Ms. Ortiz and Mr. Ken set up not one, but two demonstrations that students then modeled themselves. Can you see what happens to the red water when it's placed above a heat source? Or what happens to



the blue ice cubes as they melt? Thanks to Ms. Ortiz, Mr. Ken, and their two student lab assistants for making these amazing experiments possible!







ES Counseling

Mr. Davon - Counselor



Dear Parents,

We are excited to introduce a new initiative in our elementary classrooms aimed at fostering self-regulation and emotional control in our students. As part of our commitment to promoting social-emotional well-being, we will be implementing Social-Emotional Learning Check-Ins using the "Zones of Regulation."



These check-ins provide a valuable opportunity for your child to express how they are feeling, share how their learning is progressing, outline their plans for the day, and identify any areas where they may need support. By giving students a voice in their emotional well-being and academic experience, we aim to create a more supportive and understanding classroom environment.

Through these SEL "temperature checks," we can better understand your child's needs, preferences, and emotions. This will enable us to provide tailored support and ensure a positive learning experience for every student.

We believe that this practice will help strengthen the teacher-student connection and contribute to the overall social and emotional development of your child. If you have any questions or concerns about this initiative, please feel free to reach out to us. We value your partnership in nurturing your child's well-being and academic success.

Thank you for your continued support.

HARVESTFEST 2023

Ruthy Deholton & Julie Mullen, G12 Advisors

Thank you to the PTC, Student Council and the TASOK teachers/staff who helped with HARVESTFEST. It was an exciting event and the Seniors are grateful for your support of our PROM !!!





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TASOK PERFORMING ARTS 2023-24

Kelley Marchant, Director

Our fall show, **William Shakespeare's A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM** is **THIS WEEK!! SAVE THE DATE (November 2,3,4 - 7:00pm)**



Tickets are on sale now through this link:

[A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM TICKET ORDER](#)



Coming November 14-17th

Auditions for HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL!!

Start practicing your singing, dancing and acting!

Auditions are open to all Secondary School students.

Audition Information will be sent through ManageBac on Monday, November 6th!



Secondary Student Council

Kelley Marchant, Advisor

Secondary Student Council celebrated their efforts for Congo Week with a celebratory meeting on Monday, October 2nd, 2023.



After that, the focus this month was the **Harvest Festival** which happened this last Saturday! The Student Council helped our Senior class with some of the Carnival games to celebrate with our whole community!





SUBMISSIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE

2023 - 2024

YEARBOOK COVER CONTEST

FOR THE THEME:

TASOK RECAPPED

CREATE A VISUALLY APPEALING, COHESIVE
YEARBOOK **FRONT** AND **BACK COVER** THAT
CAPTURES THE ESSENCE OF THE YEAR.

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO BOTH:

Ms. Hall at khall@tasok.net AND

Mrs. Jacqueline at jmapessa@tasok.net

USING:

- A4 SIZED PAPER**
- 8 1/2 X 11 3/4 IN
- 210 X 297 MM
- 21.0 X 29.0 CM

MUST INCLUDE

- FRONT AND BACK COVER ART
- NO PLAGIARIZED / STOLEN IMAGES
- ALL IMAGES MUST BE:
 - PURCHASED LEGALLY (EX. CANVA)
 - OR ROYALTY-FREE (EX. PIXABAY, UNSPLASH)

AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATIONS:

- SELFIES / PERSONAL PHOTOS
- OFFENSIVE IMAGES / WORDS
- PLAGIARISM
- BLURRY IMAGES

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH

Elementary Student Council-

Mike Bailey- ES Principal

The elementary student council continued to promote being caring, principled and communicators through messages, challenges, and creating displays. Students passed reminders to elementary and secondary student as they entered the gates during arrival on Wednesday, Oct. 25, created new displays showing what being caring and communicators looks like, and added to the recognition badges that students can pass on as they recognize others being being caring and communicators, the same as the principled badges they already shared with other students.

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DP CORNER

Chris Clover, DP Coordinator

Secondary conferences are coming up on Friday, November 3rd from 7:30 am - 3:30 pm. Conferences are 3-Way Conferences (Parent-Student-Teacher). There will be no classes during the day, but students should accompany their parents to the conferences. They are a great way for parents to engage with their child's educational journey, helping build a partnership between parents, students, and teachers here at TASOK. For DP parents it's a chance to get insight into the DP curriculum, assessment methods, and academic expectations. Conferences also offer an opportunity for parents to communicate with teachers and coordinators, and discuss their child's progress, strengths, and areas for improvement. Working together to ensure the overall well-being and success of our DP students is a group effort. Look for a communication via ManageBac from Sarah Clover, our Secondary Principal with details.



The Grade 12 students have submitted their **Extended Essay** final drafts and will finish their final reflections by November 8th. Grade 11 students will start their Extended Essay journey during the week of October 30th to November 3rd by completing an interest survey for potential topics.

Thanks to all who helped and participated in our **Harvest Fest** and congratulations to the Grade 12 students and student council for their successful fundraising efforts.

Save the date! The **DP Visual Arts Mock Exhibition** showcasing student work is coming up on November 1st. Thanks to Ms. Trego and the DP Art students, we will be using a new format this year utilizing spaces around campus. Be on the lookout.

MYP CORNER

Kelley Marchant, MYP Coordinator

Personal Project - An Introduction

Our Grade 10 students are off to a great start in getting their Personal Projects going! The Personal Project is the culmination of the Middle Years Program. Similar to the PYP Exhibition and the DP Extended Essay, it is a long-term project, showing sustained work over several months. Each Grade 10 student is assigned a Faculty Supervisor and will demonstrate the results of their learning at the Personal Project Exhibition on Thursday, February 8, 2024.

Through the Personal Project, students are given the opportunity to engage in independent learning, demonstrating skills that they have gained throughout the MYP. The Personal Project allows students to investigate and pursue personal interests and passions, whilst reflecting on their own learning and personal growth throughout the process. This means that they can choose a topic that lies outside of your normal classes, do something really challenging, and prove that they have grit and determination. With this in mind, the Personal Project is an excellent opportunity to practice and further develop their learning skills in preparation for the DP in Years 11 & 12.

The three main parts of the Personal Project are the Process you follow, the Product you produce, and the Report you write to explain what you have done and learned. At the end, all three parts are assessed through the Report, where they provide evidence related to the Process and Product.

Some of Grade 10 Personal projects this year include:

- *Learning to design a website
- *Learning to play the Saxophone
- *Creating a Travel Blog
- *Creating a cookbook
- *Creating a documentary
- *Learning Chinese calligraphy

Secondary Service -

Rachel Eells - CAS Coordinator

TASOK DP students have been gaining new perspectives on global issues with visits to local schools in Kinshasa. Students build connections and learn how to communicate in new contexts. Here are some highlights:

Les Amis de Daniel (AMD) - a school that educates students in Kinshasa with a range of learning differences and needs. TASOK toured the school, met with the director and supported students in classes.

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Students are looking into opportunities for ongoing support of the school,

Women of Purpose - TASOK students partnered with Women of Purpose to participate in conversations about the use of technology. The students visited Lycee Kabambare to discuss with students the use of technology by individuals and the broader impact on society.



Sanny Kerssemeeckers - SA Coordinator

Grade 10 MYP students are in the middle of their Service as Action project. The group decided to continue to support Stand Proud, an organization in Kinshasa that supports children with lower limb deformities by

building walking aids, funding surgeries and supporting children undergoing treatment.

Grade 10 students have put donation boxes in all the Advisory classrooms for collection of the following items.

- School supplies
- Blankets
- Bed sheets
- Cushions
- Shoes (40-43)
- Clothes
- Crutches already made
- Kitchen supplies (pastries)
- Toys and balloons
- Belts
- Leather bags

Next week, Grade 10 will be hosting 2 movie nights

- G6-8 on Tuesday, November 7th from 4:30-6:00 pm in the CAC
- G9-12 on Thursday, November 9th from 4:30-6:00 pm in the CAC

Tickets are 5 USD at the entrance and included popcorn. Other treats will be sold well. We hope many students can join to enjoy the movies and also raise money for this important organization.



**Stand Proud
Movie Night**

Grades 6-8, Tuesday
November 7th
Grades 9 - 12, Thursday,
November 9th



Delicious snacks like Cinnamon rolls, Cookies, and Samosas will be sold!

Tickets \$5 at the door, popcorn included

Three-way conferences are on the way!

Vitna Bailey - PYP Coordinator

Three-way conferences are scheduled on Friday, November 3. Students, parents, and teachers will meet together to celebrate students' learning and progress and share goals that will help them grow. These conferences are designed to give parents and teachers, with the student, an opportunity to discuss information about the student's progress, development, and needs and to review their goals. It is a part of the reporting process at TASOK. As students move up through the grades they will be expected to take on greater responsibilities during this conference. If you are new to the three-way conference, please note that students are active participants at



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the conference. At TASOK we develop and nurture student agency by providing opportunities for them to share their voice, make choices, and show ownership of their learning and school life. Recognizing and celebrating what the student is doing well and building on their strengths is important.

How to prepare for a three-way conference:

- Talk to your child about their learning ahead of time. What are they excited about? What are they finding challenging? What are their goals for the future?
- Visit your child's Seesaw page and read the weekly updates from the homeroom teacher. This will help you to have a more informed conversation about their progress.
- Come to the conference with your own questions and concerns. You can share your questions and concerns with teachers ahead of time, so they are ready to address them.
- Be prepared to work collaboratively with your child and their teacher to support your child for success.



Each conference with the homeroom teacher is scheduled for 15 min. We kindly request that you **arrive on time for your conference**. This will help us to stay on schedule and ensure that all parents have an opportunity to meet with their child's teacher. Please stop by the single-subject classes before and/or after the meeting with the homeroom teacher. Meetings with single-subject teachers are on a drop-in basis. You can stop by and speak with them without an appointment. *If you have specific questions or concerns, reach out to your child's teacher and share your questions or concerns ahead of time.* It will help

save time and use the conference time more effectively.

There will be a learning share space set up for each grade level on the conference day. Please take a look at the space and ask your child to guide you through the learning that's been going on in the class. We look forward to having you on the conference day.

COLLEGE CORNER – Preparing our Class of 2024!

Julie Mullen – College Counselor

Our first university acceptance of 2023/2024 just came in!



For up to date information about online registration, please click on the: [COLLEGE BOARD WEBSITE LINK](#)

SAT TEST DATE**	Deadline for Registration Registration Changes, and Regular Cancellation
November 4, 2023	October 20, 2023
December 2, 2023	November 17, 2023

March 9, 2023	Coming Soon
May 4, 2023	Coming Soon
June 1, 2023	Coming Soon

We are already starting great conversations about where to go after TASOK for our grade 12's so stay tuned!

XTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES 2023-2024

Gilbert Kaburu & Timon Kitakani– Athletic Director & ASA Coordinators

ATHLETICS & AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We have two weeks left for the Trimester 1 ASAs and Season 1 Sports. Thank you to all our staff, coaches and parents who led activities, coached, or assisted with MUN and play practices. Our students have benefited a great deal, thanks to your time and efforts.

We are preparing for the second trimester and season. We are appealing to you, our fabulous volunteers. We have had a variety of arts, service and sports activities across the whole school, and hosted national schools for volleyball friendly matches in preparation for the volleyball tournament.



If you are open to leading an ASA for Trimester 2, please click on the links below and complete the forms. We will then follow up with you.

[Elementary School ASA Leaders Sign Up](#)

[Secondary School ASA Leaders Sign Up](#)

Trimester 2 Adjusted Dates

As we adjust to the new asynchronous calendar, our appeal is for flexibility with the dates. Below is the adjusted calendar for the next trimesters:

ASA Trimester 2: November 13 - February 23 (9 weeks)

- Registration: November 13 - November 23
- Activities: November 27 - December 8 & January 22 - February 23 (7 weeks)

Sports Season 2 (November 13 – December 8 & January 22 February 23): Basketball, Swimming

- Try-outs: November 13 - 17

Upcoming Sports Events

We have the TASOK Volleyball Tournament on Saturday November 11, and the Cross Country Run on Friday November 17. (Please see posters below).



Please come in big numbers and support the Condors as they finish the Volleyball season in style.

Thank you for supporting the Athletics and Activities program so far this year.

Business Office Info

Kareen Laplanche - Finance & Operations Manager

Welcome New & Returning families!

This is a brief overview of the payment methods accepted at TASOK. TASOK offers families and companies the convenience of making tuition payments as well as miscellaneous purchases/bill settlements online. Traditional payment methods are still available.

The school partners with Diamond Mind/Community Brands, an independent school payment service provider. Other local services are also available. All payment information is completely secure using the highest security standards in the industry.

Payment Options ([LINK HERE](#))

WEBSITE OPTION

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

You can find common answers to online tuition payment questions at [DM-FAQ](#).

MOBILE OPTION


You can also pay using our mobile payment app: MySchoolWallet©



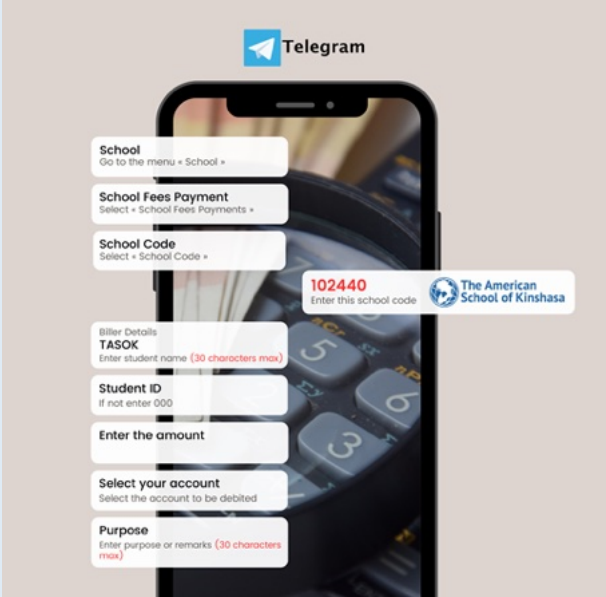
NEWMOBILE OPTION (for EQUITY BANK users only)

You can now make payments to TASOK with a click via the Equity mobile application. Follow the instructions below. See your Equity rep for more details.

1. Go to Telegram app
2. Search for the chatbot Eazzy Chat DRC (@EquityBankDRCBot) or scan the QR Code
3. Go to the menu « School »
4. Click on Payment of school fees
5. Type in TASOK's biller Code : 102440
6. Type in Student ID if you don't have one, type 000
7. Insert the Student Name : 30 characters maximum
8. Enter amount
9. Select account number
10. Reason for payment : 30 characters maximum
11. Confirm payment with your PIN
12. Insert the OTP received by SMS



EQUITY
@EQUITYBANKDRCBOT



Telegram

School
Go to the menu « School »

School Fees Payment
Select « School Fees Payments »

School Code
Select « School Code »

102440
Enter this school code

Biller Details
TASOK
Enter student name (30 characters max)

Student ID
If not enter 000

Enter the amount

Select your account
Select the account to be debited

Purpose
Enter purpose or remarks (30 characters max)

The American School of Kinshasa

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.

ON CAMPUS OPTION

- TASOK Cashier Office accepts cash up to 1,000 USD.
- 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(s), please email accounts@tasok.net.

Stay informed

Visit the Business Office page [link](#) for details on Tuition Rates, Payment Plans and Educational Loans at Local Banks.

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

Nurse's Station Cell +243 817 252 011

Nathalie Katalayi– TASOK Nurse: nurse@tasok.net

At TASOK, we continue to reinforce healthy practices.

Make sure to let the nurse know as your child has an allergy or a chronic medical condition that is required to take medicine daily at school or if your child has a temporary prescription to take during the school hours.

Send your child to the Nurse first thing in the morning after 2 days of sickness absence.


Should your child be sick or absent for any reason, please share the information via: attendance@tasok.net

The 2023/24 Academic Calendar is Here!

Also found on our TASOK website [LINK!](#)

TASOK CALENDAR OF EVENTS ALSO FOUND AT:

<https://tasok.net/events-calendar/>



The image shows a screenshot of the '2023-2024 TASOK Approved Academic Calendar'. It features a grid of months from August to July, with various dates highlighted in different colors (blue, yellow, green) to indicate specific events or holidays. The calendar includes a legend at the bottom with color-coded boxes for 'School Days', 'Holidays', 'Vacation Days', and 'Sabbatical Days'. The text '2023-2024 TASOK Approved Academic Calendar' is visible at the top left of the screenshot.

Upcoming Events:

November

- 3 Conferences (No scheduled Classes)
- 2-4 Fall Play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*
- 4 SAT
- 10 End of Trimester 1 ASAs and Sports Season 1
- 11 Volleyball Tournament
- 13-17 Tryouts for Sports Season 2
- 22 International Day & Lunch (Alt. Schedule)
- 22-24 Thanksgiving Break (dismissal at 2:00 pm)
- 27 Start of Trimester 2 ASAs and Sports Season 2

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

