



THE KISWCD PRECURSOR

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

I would like to welcome all members of staff and students to the New Year 2010. This is a year where all should make a difference in our place of work and studies.

In the last two months the following achievements have been witnessed:

Opening of the new branch at County house, the launch of JKUAT Programmes at KISWCD, a successful training of over 250 inmates in six prisons in Kenya and

the launch of results based management which aims to improve KISWCD services to its clients is another step in the right direction.

I hope all will work even harder this year to help KISWCD realize its mission.

Have a blessed year

Benjamin M Mutie

Director of programmes

EDUCATIONAL TALK

On February 19th 2010, KISWCD was privileged to be addressed by Safaricom Foundation manager Sanda Ojiambo who presented a lecture talk on corporate social responsibility. The lecture was a great success in that all those who turned up had the opportunity to ask questions to the foundations manager relating to Safaricom foundation. In her talk, the foundation manager informed the participants that the foundation's areas of focus are on economic empowerment, education, health environmental conservation, sports, disaster relief, arts, music, and culture. Also present during the talk were KISWCD director of programmes who urged the students to take advantage of the Safaricom foundation and come up with good proposal and submit them to the foundation. In his closing remarks he appreciated the foundation for choosing and coming to KISWCD.

PRAYER DAY

KISWCD held its first Prayer Day' this year on January 15th, 2010. The staff and students spend part of the day in prayers and singing for the good role the institution has played in providing training services over the years. The day began with entertainment from Ghaff choir followed by introduction of staff and brief speech from the Principal. In speech, the principal urged the students to remain focused. Rev Geoffrey Nganga presided over the service. He read the word of God from the book of Hebrews 12:2 and John 2:2 and informed the students and the staff that passion drives you towards your vision. The day ended with prayers and everybody left at their own pleasure.

KISWCD AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

As part of its corporate social responsibility programmes KISWCD has awarded scholarships to over 90 students pursuing various courses at the institution in the academic year 2010. Beneficiaries received scholarships ranging from partial to full scholarships.

KISWCD TRAINS INMATES

Over 250 inmates in six Kenya prisons received training on business startup skills courtesy of KISWCD. The training which was conducted by KISWCD staff took place from 8th – 19th February. The training was conducted in the following respective centers; Kamiti, Kiambu, Machakos, Nyeri, Athi River and Naivasha. For the prisoners, it was like a new dawn to access this rare commodity - knowledge.

KISWCD OPENS TOWN CAMPUS

Finally KISWCD has acquired a new ultra modern branch at County house 3rd floor Haile selassie avenue next to Protection house, the campus opens its doors on 8th march 2010.

These are major developments for the institution as the new campus will ensure that more students access KISWCD programmes.

STUDENT'S TRIP TO CHILDRENS HOME

On 27th Feb 2010, KISWCD students in the company of their staff paid a visit to Mully Children's Home in Matuu, where they donated various items and foodstuffs. This occasion would not have been a success without the generous contributions from both students and staff of the institution and other well wishers. We would like to thank all those who gave their resources and time towards this noble cause.

GHAFF CHOIR

Sing unto the lord a new song, Psalms 96:1. The Ghaff choir (KISWCD) invites everyone to join us as we sing praises unto the lord. The choir is made up of KISWCD students from all works of life. The choir is vibrant and active. Currently they have many activities and events coming ahead.

On 13th march the choir will be having its outside performance at wedding ceremony to be held in Karen.

Choir chairman

Niculus Melusi.

SHORT COURSES

The following short courses were offered in the month of Jan and Feb: Training of Trainers (TOT/TOF), Customer care skills and Disaster preparedness and management skills. All students interested in short courses should book with the marketing manager KISWCD.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

On 6th February 2010 over 50 KISWCD students took part in community service day organized by the institution. The students accompanied by some of the staff made a trip to Kibera Christian Learning Center (CLC) where they participated in various activities. Some of the activities that students took part in include; cleaning, awareness creation on environmental conservation and sanitation among other activities. Among the places that students went to are; Ayany CLC office, St Jukes Parish and St Aloysius Gonzaga. CLC programme coordinator Barletti Jaji affirmed that the services offered by KISWCD students in their quest of providing community were perfect and that all who took part would receive certificates from Christian learning center (CLC). Ms Ayuya KISWCD staff also encouraged the students to be ready to serve the community willingly so as to make a positive change. We appreciate all the students who wittingly and unwittingly participated in the exercise.

OBJECTIVES AS MEANS TO AN END

Students' studying for a course in a learning institution just like KISWCD is a project. The study for a course is regarded as a project because a student is required to operate within constraints of **time schedule**, limited **budget**, defined **scope** and **quality study**. In other words, one is expected to complete the study within one and two years respectively for a certificate and diploma; utilize the limited funds appropriately, work within the required study boundary and deliver the quality work. Following this, a student is advised to formulate specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and timed (**SMART**) study objectives as a means to achieving the desired performance which is also a requisite for further career development.

For those students studying for Kenya national examination council (KNEC) and Kenya institute of social work and community development (KISWCD) exams, they are advised to focus their study effort on the course outline objectives in the respective courses. Disregarding the course outlines objectives means a directionless effort which can result to time wastage, study without boundary and consequently high cost and low quality work.

For students being examined by the Institute of Certified Management (ICM) and association of managers (ABMA) are advised to formulate study objectives based on the respective course outlines.

In case one is not informed on how to formulate these objectives; it is advisable to seek guidance from the respective class lecturer, mentors or the author of this article.

Information is power strive to get it!

Gitonga B.A

HOD Project Planning and Management

HUMOUR ZONE

HALF OF MY WEALTH

A rich man throws a pool party at his prestigious mansion one hot sunny afternoon while the party is ongoing, orders that the swimming be filled with dangerous reptiles. Then he said to the baffled crowd, 'today I want to award a brave person. Whoever swims along this pool, I shall give half of my wealth or my daughter to marry. No sooner had he said that, a man was in the pool swimming frantically till he reached the end of the pool and was helped out. The rich man ran to him, shocked in disbelief how daring this gentleman was, and asked him, 'what do you want gentleman, my riches or my daughter?' The man answered "the name of the person who threw me in.

From editor's desk

The KISWCD precursor is a semi quarterly newsletter published every two months. The editors appreciate your comments and contribution towards making this newsletter a success. For any information or submissions contact; Mr. Isaac Kipsang *KISWCD*, *Nacico Plaza 6th floor, Ladhies Road, P.o Box 57961-00200. Tel.:020 247539.EMAIL:info@kiswcd.co.ke;*

SKY IS THE LIMIT

'The horizon is an illusion of the eye.' This may sound like a common statement albeit the focus is in fact evident. A Look at the horizon brings in the desire to experience the unseen beyond our sight. This unseen on the other side of the horizon could either be leeward or windward depending on where you stand. Whether leeward or windward, it is possible therefore to find ourselves investing any possible effort to discover the goodies on the other side.

This brings us to think about setting goals and targets which positions us on the only platform that can bring about a meaningful life. I hear them say that 'the end justifies the means' which implies that there is an 'end' in our career lives or so, that propels our daily behavior. Our being in **KISWCD** is not as a result of the big bang rather it is a calculated move to achieve a greater good tomorrow. However, the desired results may not be without challenges here and there. Let us look at it this way; soldiers on a military parade receive a command to the tune of 'eye...s right!' When this happens I don't see them turn the whole body to face the dignitary but the motion continues towards the finishing line though with eyes turned to the direction called upon. I believe this is the way we should handle this life, look at challenges from a winners' perspective but stick to our focus.

It's not whether you fell but whether you stood up that separates winners from losers.

Jackson Wachira

Principal

EITHER CHOOSE OR CHOOSE

Life is a business of making choices. Every moment of our lives we have to make choices on where to go, what to listen to, who to relate with and others. The choices we make either make us or destroy us. The quality of our lives depends on the choices we make. Not making a choice is a choice itself. Our today is a function of the choices we made yesterday, our tomorrow is a function of the choices we make today and our destiny is a function of all the choices we make in life. Therefore make the right choices and take charge of your destiny.

Amos Musembi

Lecturer

UPCOMING EVENTS

3rd – 5th March: **Workshop for 2nd semester units**

5th March: **Handing in of CAA & CAT date (FT)**

8th – 10th March: **Workshop for 3rd semester units**

11th March: **Start of unit(s)**

12th March: **ABMA/ICM June Exams registration**

13th March: **Field trip DCD July 2009 Class & CCD (FT)**

15th March – 19th March: **Interim KNEC ECDE Proficiency**

18th March: **Orientation day**

26th March: **Educational talk**

27th March: **Field trip DSW July 2009 Class (FT)**

