

AWOKO

January 12, 2024

From Brian’s Desk

Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

It was wonderful to welcome our students back for the first school days of 2024. All of us here at AISF extend our best wishes to you all for a happy, healthy, and successful 2024. I dearly hope that our world can find its way back to being a more peaceful and harmonious place in the coming year.

Director Candidate Visits

As you know, AISF has been searching for a head of school to take over from me on 1st August 2024. That search has gone on longer than we might have hoped, but it has been a difficult task for the Board to find someone with the requisite skills, qualities, and experience AND who is also willing to come to Freetown and take over the reins of this small school. I believe, however, that we might finally be in the final stages of that search!

Next week, we will have two director candidates visiting at the same time: Elizabeth Minnigin who is the former head of the British School of Lomé and Jeff Trudeau who is the head of the International School of Ouagadougou and former head of the American International School of Monrovia.

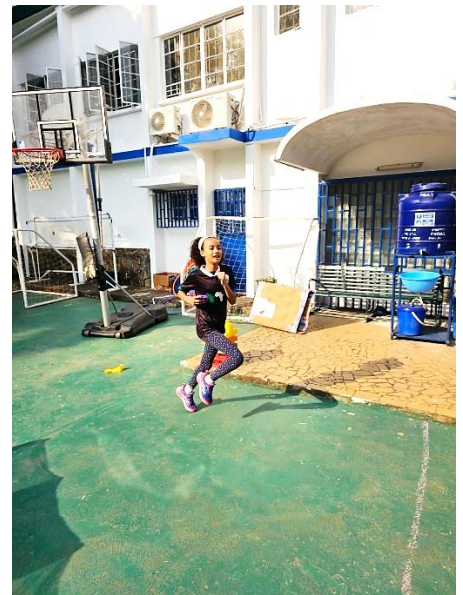
Once again, parents are invited to meet the candidates, learn more about them, and ask questions. This meeting will be from 08:15 to 09:30 on Wednesday 17th January. Do come and let the Board know your thoughts as to who should lead AISF into the future. You are free to see Mr. Joseph at our reception desk to view copies of the candidates’ CVs.

Students Hard at Work!

Generally, AWOKO is full of photos of students involved in all kinds of special activities. I thought that this week I would take some photos of them busy working...after all, you do send them to school to learn!







Important Upcoming Dates

Monday 8th January	School Reopens
January 16-17	Director Candidates On Site
Wednesday 17th January	Parents Meet Director candidates 08:15—09:45
Thursday 1st February	Black History Month Begins
February 12-15	Parent-Teacher Conferences
Monday 19th February	Sierra Leone Armed Forces Day Observed (School Closed)
Friday 8th March	International Women’s Day (School Closed)
Friday 15th March	Trimester Two Ends / Final Trimester Fees Due
March 29-April 14	Spring Break (School Closed)

Quote of the Week: *Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness.* Desmond Tutu

ECC

Welcome back! We hope you had a restful and enjoyable spring break. We are thrilled to have our students back and ready for another exciting week of learning and exploration.

This week, our Pre-K students are diving into the fascinating world of measurement as they learn to compare the lengths of various objects through hands-on activities and interactive lessons.

In our International Early Years Curriculum (IEYC), we've embarked on a brand-new unit titled "Let's Play Outside." We're excited about the possibilities this unit holds for our young students as they explore and connect with the world around them. This unit encourages active participation in outdoor activities, fostering a love for nature and promoting holistic development.

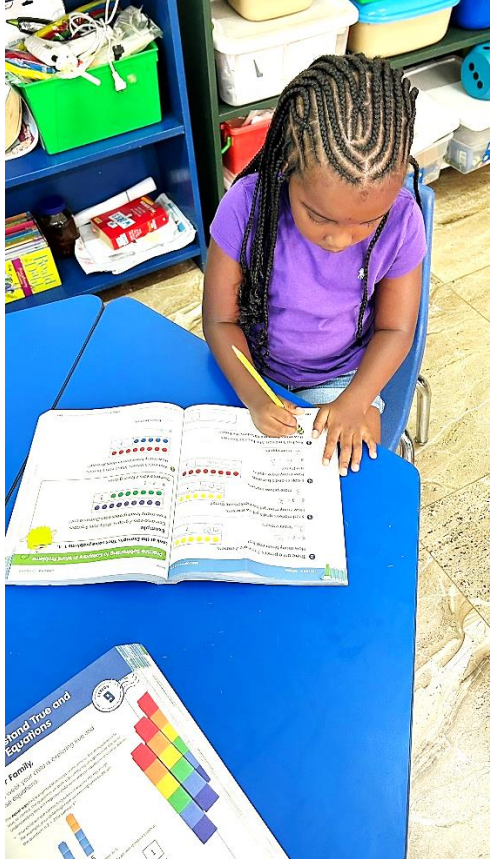


Grade 1-2

We were excited to welcome new and old friends back to school this week!

We have continued with our unit on The Nature of Life and went outside to consider the shared characteristics of living things. We then used the microscope to learn more about cells.

In Math we have been working on 2-digit addition and on word problems. In ELA we are about to start a new topic... Exciting things to come!

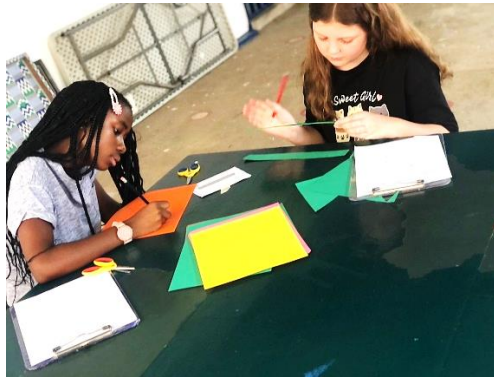


Grade 3-4

Happy New Year! We hope you all had an enjoyable break. It was lovely to be back on Monday and have a super start to the new year.

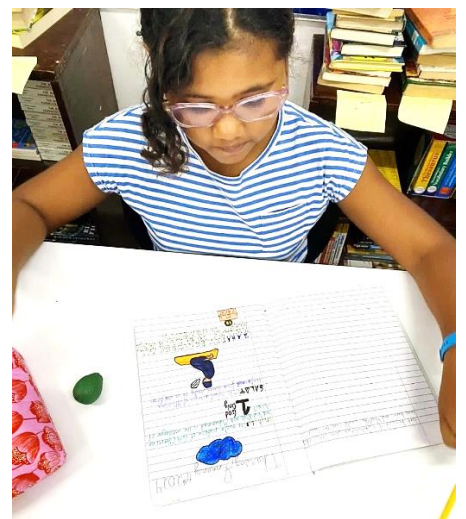
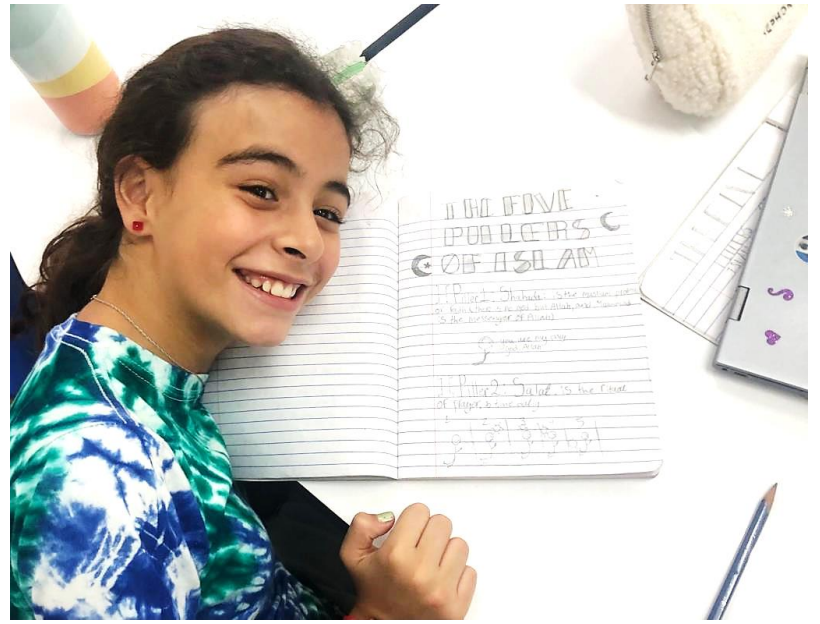
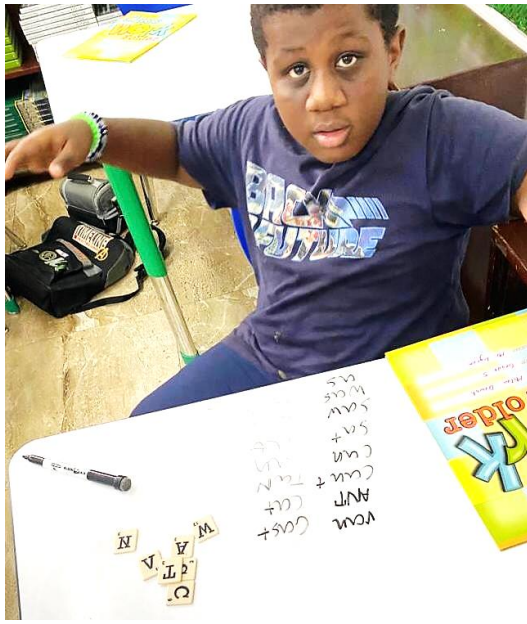
We began the week by talking about our new year's resolutions, realistic goal setting, and how to work towards sustainable, positive changes in our lives.

Of all the subjects we learnt this week, Math was the most fun! It was a week of practical Math as we learnt how to measure length, time, weight and volume. Today's Math lesson we used all the skills learnt to bake a cake!



Grade 5-8 (English and Social Studies)

This week Grade 5/6 & 7/8 students began the week by sharing stories about what they did over the holidays. Then they tested their knowledge of English grammar, spelling, and punctuation by completing daily worksheets that they will continue to complete during the school year. In ELA grade 5/6 began reading *The Breadwinner* by Deborah Ellis and grade 7/8 began reading *The Omnivore's Dilemma* by Michael Pollan. In social studies 5/6 began learning about Islam while in 7/8 students began learning about food production in contemporary Africa.



High School

The High School students had already been working on their online courses when the school resumed on Monday. They started last Wednesday, January 3rd, when the new VHS term began. They have already received their Term 2 Grades and teacher comments. Aji did an excellent job taking her first progress test in French. In Art, they are working on a new artistic project guided by Mr. John and, in P.E., Mr. Frederick teaches them how to play American football. High School is wishing you all: "Happy 2024!"

