



KHS



~~T G S~~ V O I C E
T H E G O R D O N S C H O O L S N E W S L E T T E R

WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL



Our school Khomas High School is located on the top hill in the central part of the capital city Windhoek West. The fourteen year old school is a government school. The most awesome thing individuals will notice is the spectacular view that overlooks the city. Our school was founded in 2001 and is made of classrooms, a lab for the science department, and a library filled with a variety of information. A typical day at Khomas High School starts at 7:15am with a motivational speech from the principal at the assembly point. Here we also get the days work, praises and morning prayer. Our classes start at 7:40am and school ends by 1:15pm. The school has a variety of subjects such as mathematics, physical education and languages like German, Afrikaans and the locally spoken language Otjiherero. Afternoon classes are also offered to pupils and most of the practical work and lab experiments are done after school.

Khomas High School has the motto 'Always be the Best' and is built on knowledge, perseverance and excellence and we shall strive to keep it as such.

WRITTEN BY Patriele (19), LeShaun (17) & Baschir (18) - GRADE 11

KHOMAS HIGH SCHOOL DAY



LEARNERS ARRIVE AT SCHOOL :
7.00am

ASSEMBLY (PERIOD 1) 7.20- 7.30am

PERIOD 2 7.30 - 8:15am

PERIOD 3 8.15 - 9.00am

PERIOD 4 9.00 - 9.45am

PERIOD 5 9.45 - 10.30am

BREAK (PERIOD 6) 10:30 - 11:00am

PERIOD 7 11.00 - 11.45am

PERIOD 8 11.45 - 12.30am

PERIOD 9 12.30 - 1.15pm

END OF SCHOOL DAY

This is just one example of a typical day at Khomas High, the school works on a seven day cycle with most days consisting of nine periods although some days are longer. The structure of the day also changes depending on whether it is a Test Series Day.

TRANSPORTATION SITUATION

At The Gordon Schools in Scotland a large proportion of learners arrive to school by bus, while those who live in the town of Huntly where TGS is situated walk or cycle to school. Because learners at Khomas High School come from all over the city of Windhoek many students travel long distances to get to school. We asked 238 learners how they get to school.

116

Learners
taxi
to school.

14

Learners
walk
to school.

103

Learners
drive
to school.

Of those we asked, **5** learners took the bus and **0** learners cycled to school or used any other method of transport.



HELLO
I AM...

A LEARNER
FROM KHOMAS
HIGH



WHY DO YOU THINK SCHOOL IS IMPORTANT?

School is important because the things we get to learn here we can't learn somewhere else like on the street. School gives us knowledge to understand things better and you need to get educated if you want to be someone in life.

- MBANINGAPARA (14)

I think school is important because it opens a lot of doors for a person and is filled with so many opportunities and really I think that is the key to having a successful and prosperous life.

- MARION (15)

I think school is important because not all people get the opportunity to go to school because some people cannot afford to pay school fees. It is important to go to school because your future relies on it and without school you wouldn't be able to fulfil your dreams.

- NDJIZIRA (15)

School is important because you meet more friends and it keeps you away from the streets.

- SIMON (15)

They say education is the key to success. Nowadays without school you are nothing. School is important because you get to read and write and learn about different kinds of things that are happening in the world and also about things that are happening around you and why.

- MPH0 (14)

School is important to me because I want to become someone in life. I want my kids to live a happy life.

- UETUESAPI (14)

Education is the most powerful weapon which we can use to change the world. We can only have education if we go to school, education fights poverty.

- TJIPENANDJAMBI (15)

WHAT DO YOU LIKE ABOUT SCHOOL?

I like school because you can become someone at school - a teacher, a pilot, an engineer, etc. School is there for you to have a better future for your family, that is the reason I like school.

- OPUVERI (15)

I like school because through education is the only way to success, I also like the uniform!

- NELAO(15)

I like school because of the people around me and you always get to learn something new. People at school always brighten up my smile especially my classmates they are good people.

- GEORGINA (15)

I love our school's academic performance as it is always high. Also in sports we are always on top. I love my school!

- SAIMA (15)

School is the only place I feel free. I can learn and I am not afraid to be wrong because there will always be somebody to help me. School is like a garden where I feel safe and enjoy myself. I love school!

- TEARRON (16)

I like school because I get to open my day with my friends and also I learn something new every day.

- ELRITHA (16)



WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU ARE OLDER?

I would like to be a teacher because if I teach the learners will have a better future. This leads to development of the country because if there are many people who are working they will be able to contribute to the country and the country.

VEHONGA

When I am old enough and done with school I would love to become a vet because I have a desire to work with animals and solve every little matter regarding their health. It would make me a happy person to see each and every animal healthy and breathing.

TJIMBINA E

I want to become a lawyer because I know I have the voice and strength to help innocent people.

OTSHUMBA

When I grow up I would love to become an car engineer where I will be able to design cars and fix them. When I was little I used to watch cars move so fast and then I wondered to myself what if I design a car that could move so fast without stopping?

UNODANDO

I would want to become a doctor. If I became a doctor I will help the needy. My dream is to build a big clinic which is going to be for free for the homeless and for people who don't have money to pay. I would love to work in a hospital and have my own clinic at the same time.

MINSOZI

I want to become a diver because I would like to help the shipwrecks and people who will be drowning in the sea.

SARA

When I grow up I want to be a dentist because I want to help people who have a problem with their teeth, especially the old aged people and the very young people. I would like to help every person in any country or any continent except Antarctica because there is only ice on that.

DAVINA

If I finish school I would like to get a job where I can work for myself. I want to go and do business because with the money I make I won't have to pay other people. I will choose a career and not a job. In a job you wait for the person you work for to pay you in a career you can pay yourself.

MEUNAJE

If I finish school I would want to be a doctor and a private doctor. The reason is I would want to help other people's lives and health. Support and care is my biggest aim in life and I will succeed.

RAVREL

I want to become a scientist because I am good in science, math and geography. I like learning about the natural world and I like to explore new things.

KUTUAMENUA

What I would like to become after finishing school is a designer. I love to design and I would like to own my own business because I want to work for myself not for somebody else.

UENDJIZUVA

I would like to be a secretary because I know how to use a computer and it is not a hard job.

VENEPIKO



NAMIBIA

LANGUAGES

- ENGLISH
- OSHIDONGA
- OSHIKWANYAMA
- KHOE-KHOE KHOWAB SAN
- RUKWANGALI
- SILOZI
- SETSWANA
- AFRIKAANS
- GERMAN



POPULATION = 2.3M

MOUNTAINS
pap & vleis
WINDHOEK
H O T

800
LEARNERS

approx



- ENGLISH
- MATHEMATICS
- GERMAN
- AFRIKAANS
- OTJIHERERO
- LIFE SCIENCE
- PHYSICAL SCIENCE
- BIOLOGY
- ACCOUNTING
- ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- COMPUTING
- BUSINESS STUDIES
- BASIC INFORMATION STUDIES
- AGRICULTURE
- HISTORY
- GEOGRAPHY
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION

SCHOOL SUBJECTS

SCOTLAND



LANGUAGES

- ENGLISH
- SCOTS
- DORIC
- GAELIC

POPULATION = 5.3M

MOUNTAINS
h a g g i s
HUNTLY
C O L D

800
PUPILS

approx



- ENGLISH
- MATHEMATICS
- GERMAN
- SPANISH
- FRENCH
- BIOLOGY
- CHEMISTRY
- PHYSICS
- ACCOUNTING
- COMPUTING
- BUSINESS STUDIES
- HISTORY
- GEOGRAPHY
- MODERN STUDIES
- ART
- DRAMA
- MUSIC
- MEDIA
- GRAPHIC COMMUNICATION
- WOODWORK
- METALWORK
- ENGINEERING SCIENCE



KHOMAS HIGH SCHOOL CLUBS

Debate, Choir, Soccer, Hockey, Netball, Youth For Christ, Athletics, Interact Club, HIV/AIDS Club, Basketball, Rugby, Red Cross Society.

KHOMAS HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS

Spelling Bee, Miss Khomas High Pageant, Talent Show.

“**T**he Red Cross Society is a club which tries to better the society by providing to the needy with blankets and food and we also clean old age homes. Red Cross helps to educate youngsters on how to live correctly and give advice on alcohol and drugs and also how to be a respectful member of society.”

TJIUNATO

“**I** joined the rugby team three years ago, we are currently fourth in the school’s rugby rankings.”

NIKLAAS

“**I**nteract club meets during break time. It is good for socialising and talking about the community and any problems that may need solved within the community. We also discuss planning for our country’s development.”

MARLEEN

“**I** took part in the modelling pageant which was in June. It was fun because it built up my confidence and it inspired me to want to become a model.”

DOLLIANA

“**M**y name is Khoenkhoë and I sing in the school choir. The reason I joined the choir is because I have a passion for singing. I sing everywhere I go and I love singing.”

KHOENKHOE

“**I** play football because I have a passion for the game and because it has good opportunities like income and travelling.”

TONY ISAACK

“**Y**outh for Christ is a bible study group where we as learners learn more about God and his ways which is very interesting. We learn song, do bible study and quote scriptures.”

LILIAN



INTERVIEW: MR HEROLD BINDA

PRINCIPAL OF KHOMAS HIGH SCHOOL



WHY DID YOU WANT TO BECOME A TEACHER?

I think I am a born teacher. The first teacher that I had was my mother, she taught me at Kindergarten. I am born into a family where there are a number of teachers. Seeing my mother teach and her passion for teaching made me think that teaching was something I wanted to pursue passionately.

To me there is nothing more rewarding than seeing someone start school in Grade 8 and go through to Grade 12 and graduation. As a teacher you are contributing to that person and seeing them become successful in life.

WHY DO YOU THINK EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT?

Looking at such a country as ours in Namibia there is such a big gap between rich and poor. Education can help with this problem. In a society where everyone is equally educated there is less ignorance; in a society where everyone is equal there are less poor judgements made; in a society where everyone is equally educated we have a better chance for change.

I am not saying that all educated people make good choices but that they are able to make better choices in life. When people are educated they tend to excel in all aspects of life. In the global village in which we live is impossible to make it unless you are educated. Education leads to a more advanced society. Education is key in life.

WHAT DO YOU THINK MAKES AN EXCELLENT SCHOOL?

The number one thing is a school with a strong culture. A culture of hard work; a culture of ethics; a culture of good moral values. If a school has those things then it is a good school. If people work hard then every teacher in school knows that they are imparting knowledge on young people and changing their lives for the better.

INTERVIEW: MS MARIA MIKA

TEACHER OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP & BUSINESS

WHY DID YOU WANT TO BECOME A TEACHER?

I never wanted to become a teacher, I wanted to become a scientist but I failed first year so bad and I got so frustrated and didn't like science any longer. So I decided to become a teacher with business and economics and I started passing again.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT TEACHING?

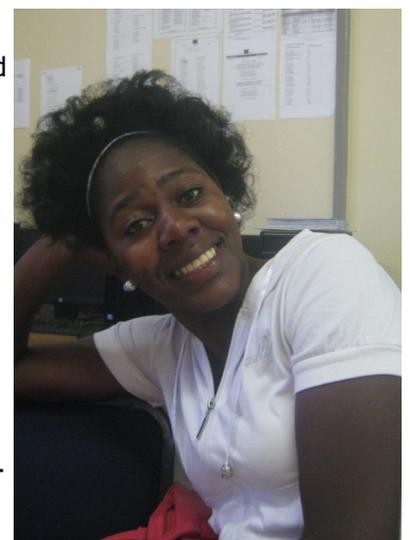
Of course I enjoy that I am entitled to three holidays each year which not everyone gets. Also I love being there for the

kids and changing someone's life, seeing them grow from Grade 8 to Grade 12 and seeing all the changes in them.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT TEACHING?

I am an athlete, I get out of school at 1.15pm and after work I go for a long run, but if I'm too lazy I dance to Zumba in my house. I also like cooking, we mess around in the kitchen at the weekend. I love food!

Ms Mika will be visiting Scotland and The Gordon Schools soon as part of the Connecting Classrooms project.





ME AND MY COUNTRY

BY OLIVIA MUHILYANE

Hi Scotland!

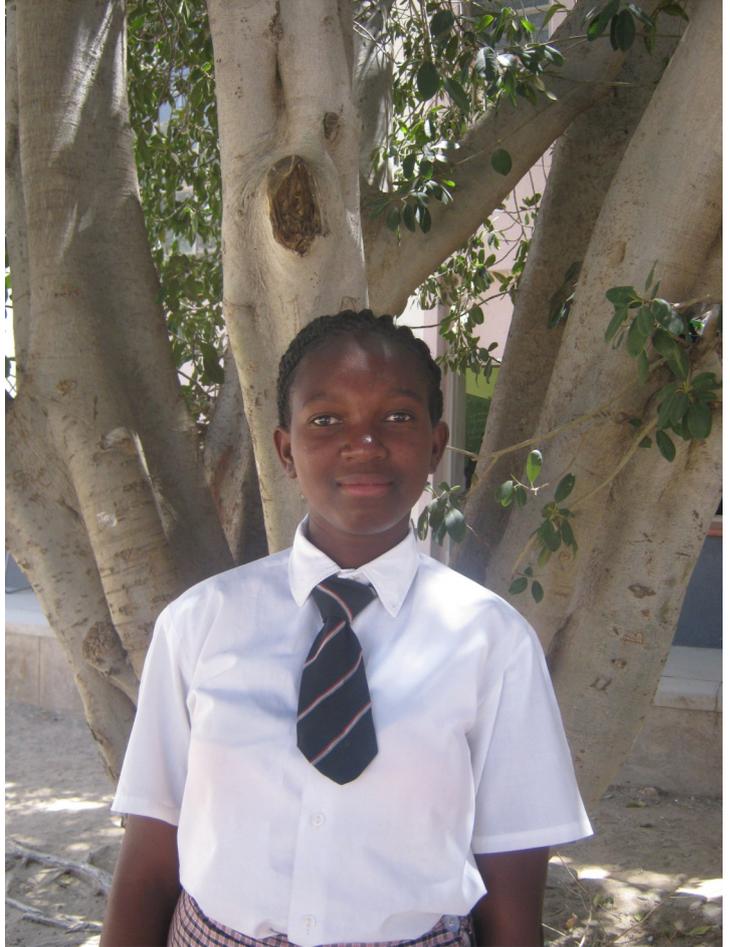
My name is Olivia Muhilyane. I am 15 years old. I am in my second year at Khomas High School, situated in the capital city of Namibia. My subjects are Accounting, Computer Studies, Physical Science, Life Science, Geography, History, Maths, German and English. The Principal's name is Mister Binda. He is a very good man and he makes sure that our school is always in order.

Every learner starts at pre-primary school before they continue to primary school from 6 to 13 years. After the seventh grade they continue to high school which is from grade 8 to 12. Every learner from grade 8 to 10 has 9 subjects, in grades 11 and 12 there are 6 subjects. Grade 10 and 12 are considered important grades, grade 10 determines whether you continue with school. The pass mark is 23 points and above in six of your subjects. If you fail grade 12 you won't make it to university. The pass mark in grade 12 is 25 points and above.

In every school in Namibia a school uniform is compulsory. Our school day starts at 7.15 and ends at 13.15. We use a seven day time table: day 1-6 has seven periods and day 7 has 8 periods.

We have a recycling system whereby schools have a competition to collect used things like cans, glass, plastic and paper. The competition is held and organised by the City of Windhoek. The school which collects the most gets a prize. I love my country so much. We have a lot of natural resources such as gold, silver, zinc, aluminium, diamonds, uranium etc.

We have a beautiful country which has a lot of places to explore like Etosha National Park, Caprivi Strip, Daan Viljoen, Sossusvlei. We have a lot of animals like lions, cheetahs, zebras, elephants, springboks etc.



However, I would really not say that living in Namibia is the best thing. I have never been out of my country and I am looking forward to visiting as many countries as possible. I am so amazed by all the new things and the different ways of living in other countries. I feel so inspired when I meet people from other countries. I am looking forward to meeting and hearing from you one day.

My kindest regards,
Olivia

K H O M A S H I G H S E E S P I N K !



On the 16th of October 2015 Khomas High School took part in a 'wear pink day'. Staff and learners were asked to wear pink to school and pay a donation of N\$5 to the Cancer Association of Namibia as part of breast cancer awareness.





KHOMAS HIGH SCHOOL UNIFORM



GRADE 12 UNIFORM FOR LRC GIRLS



GRADE 12 BOYS LRC UNIFORM & A STANDARD GRADE 12 GIRLS UNIFORM



STANDARD UNIFORM FOR GRADES 8 TO 11

Here at Khomas High School we have to do our hair in a certain way and we are only allowed to wear studs in our ears. Matriculants (Grade 12) uniforms differ from other grades. During the hot season all girls wear skirts and white socks, during the cold season girls wear trousers and grey socks whilst the boys wear the same throughout the year. Everyone must wear black leather shoes.

WRITTEN BY Rachel (17), Juliet (17), McDonald (17) and Paulus (19)

CONNECTING CLASSROOMS



Mrs McGowan and Ms Phillipus

Mrs McGowan, Mrs McLeod and Miss Abercrombie would like to thank Mr Binda, all the staff and pupils of Khomas High School for welcoming us so warmly into their learning community. We have found the experience extremely interesting and informative and will take back memories which will last a lifetime.

Special thanks are extended to our hostesses Mrs Tembo, Ms Phillipus and Ms Mika who welcomed us into their homes and made us feel like part of their families.

The Gordon Schools look forward to continuing our partnership with Khomas High School and developing our global learning community.

This exchange is made possible by the British Council Connecting Classrooms Project.



Mrs McLeod and Mrs Tembo



Miss Abercrombie and Ms Mika

