Maru-a-Pula will encourage the development of the personal qualities of tolerance, compassion, humility, initiative, self-discipline, moral and intellectual integrity and leadership for their (the students’) own sake and because they are essential to the creation of understanding and respect between individuals of different races, nationalities, classes, faiths and cultures.

~ excerpt from the Maru-a-Pula School Constitution

The inaugural MaP Naalano Leadership Conference took place from the 30th June – 3rd July, featuring over 60 delegates: 44 MaP students and eighteen students from Legae Academy, Rainbow High School, Gabarone International School, Al Nur School, Ledumang Senior Secondary School (SSS), Nanogang Community Junior Secondary School (CJSS), Moka CJSS, Mogoditshane SSS, and St Joseph’s College.

The conference aimed to bring together young African leaders to consider the future of the African continent. This year’s theme was Culture and Leadership and its vision to inspire young leaders, create a network of change makers and foster a culture of mindfulness. It featured various activities and guest speakers: Mr Andrew Taylor (MaP Principal), Ms Alice Mogwe (Ditshwanelo Human Rights Centre Founder), Ms Rachel Nyaradzo Adams (Narachi Leadership Founder), and Dr Ava Avalos (Careena Centre for Health Founder).

Each of the guest speakers shared leadership advice with the delegates. Through the talks, participants were able to identify the characteristics of good leaders, cultivate their own leadership abilities, and develop the courage and mindfulness to be leaders. In between talks, delegates participated in team-building activities and performing arts workshops facilitated by Jono the MC, Urban Empire and MaP’s own Mr Thekiso and Ms Mathibatsela. Participants also enjoyed a day out at Mokolodi Game Reserve, where they learned about conservation and had the opportunity to create their own Afrotopia (African utopia).

‘One of the aims of the conference was to meet, collaborate and create and we did exactly that!’ said Katlego Paakanyo (U6).

Special thanks to Ms Botha and her team for organising this initiative and to the sponsors: Mr Hu Zhongwen (Steel Galaxy), AT & T Monnakgotla Travel & Transport, and MaP’s very own Service, Physical and Enrichment (SPE) Department and Verbal Emancipation Team.

~ www.maruapula.org/news

Ms Rachel Nyaradzo Adams
Nyarachi Leadership Founder

Dr Ava Avalos
Careena Centre for Health Founder

Ms Alice Mogwe
Ditshwanelo Human Rights Centre Founder
Drama for Life scholars facilitated workshops for MaP’s drama students, helping them prepare for Under the Baobab Tree & Other Stories.

From left: Ms Busi Radebe, Mr Tebogo Radebe, Ms Carole Gumede, Ms Cherae Stalley, Ms Natasha Bambo, Ms Molebi Mokotsi and Ms Rosa Ann Brandt.

with special thanks to the
MaP Photographers team of:
Craig Kandiro (1K)
Mosa Nthebolan (1L)
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Wen Zhen Xu (4M)
Mattey Hrusovsky (1L)
Michael Burnett (1L)

and everyone who submitted additional content to this edition, or helped with fact-checking and labelling of photographs

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Louise Tinti (far left) and Macha Martin-Camus (third from left), with hosts Otsile Phiri (4M) and Yue Tong Zhang (4K), who were on exchange at MaP from Ecole Alsacienne in Paris, France.

Members of the Global Economic Awareness (GEA) project, who hosted economics workshops for MaP’s Form 5s and 6s. Through these workshops, students were able to gain a better understanding of micro and macroeconomics and their application in the real world. Students also had the opportunity to apply what they had learned through problem-solving exercises and team projects.

From left: Mr Frederico Mele, Mr Paarth Shah, Mr Marowa, Ms Amu, Mr Onyait, Mr Niklas Carling, and Ms Valeria Giachetti

Juilliard @ MaP

This year, MaP was visited by five students from the Juilliard School of Arts in New York, USA, who hosted dance and theatre workshops with the student body and local artists. These workshops allowed participants to gain invaluable skills and experience as performing artists. In addition to the workshops, the Juilliard apprentices actively engaged in school life, living on campus and participating in service activities. The workshops culminated in a showcase held in Maitisong on the 28th and 29th of June.

From left: Ms Juliette Kenn de Balinthazy, Ms Amanda Bouza, Ms Hannah Park, Mr Myles Hunter and Mr Darryl Gene Daughtry Jr
FORM 2 TRIP TO CAMP ACHTERBERG

My favourite part about camp was the aspect of ‘thinking outside the box’. Through this process, we understood the true importance of never making assumptions.

~ Adrian Cornet (2M)

After tripping over multiple stones and complaining that my legs were sore, I found myself seated on a rock, tearing up at how stunning the sunrise was. I instantly forgot about everything. Oh, how amazing God is!

~ Alisha Ahmad (2K)

All in all, I had a great experience! I learned a lot about the environment and how humans affect it.

~ Oneile Serumola (2L)

We went hiking, had a treasure hunt, played volleyball and so much more. I learned new things and got to know people I didn’t know before. If I had the chance, I would definitely go again!

~ Gosego Sefawe (2J)

The facilitators were so kind and welcoming, I didn’t want to leave. They had great activities planned, mostly on teamwork and leadership. If I could, I would go back!

~ Nicole Baum (2J)

Camp was a chance to get away from technology and connect with our peers. It really helped us improve our teamwork skills.

~ Amantle Dithapo (2L)

Camp was a truly wonderful experience that I wish I could go through again. Everything about the camp is amazing!

~ Krishnan Parappuveettil (2J)

The whole week was a very active one. It was really fun and I loved every minute of this camp. My two favourite things were the food, which was the best I’ve ever had at a camp, and the facilitators, who were fun to be around and easy to connect with.

~ Leatile Sebusang (2M)

During our camp, we did many awesome activities. My absolute favourite was volleyball with a twist. I enjoyed it because it brought us closer together.

~ Nothando Gilika (2M)

Camp was pretty amazing! I had a lot of fun, made many great memories and became friends with people I didn’t know before. That was incredible!

~ Takudzwa Sibanda (2K)
and was indeed successful. The whole project ran smoothly with help from Mr Magosi from the Maintenance Department (who patiently showed us how to apply paint), the school drivers (who provided the team with transport), and the Catering Department (which provided snacks).

Most importantly, the Wildlife Department must be commended for allowing our students to work on their well-conserved area, as well as MaP Journalist Anubhav Awasthi (U6) who took pictures for the world to see.

~ Mr Diphetogo Menyatso
Maru-a-Pula Horticulturalist

Wildlife Habitat

Maru-a-Pula’s Wildlife Habitat plays a role in the conservation of flora and fauna. Driven by passion to give back to Planet Earth, the school club found it appropriate to offer some assistance to the Gaborone Game Reserve by repainting their Educational Centre.

A team of MaP students was joined by students from the Juilliard School of Performing Arts. The team, which worked as a joint effort, was able to finish the task in a short period of time and was indeed successful.

The whole project ran smoothly with help from Mr Magosi from the Maintenance Department (who patiently showed us how to apply paint), the school drivers (who provided the team with transport), and the Catering Department (which provided snacks). Most importantly, the Wildlife Department must be commended for allowing our students to work on their well-conserved area, as well as MaP Journalist Anubhav Awasthi (U6) who took pictures for the world to see.

~ Mr Diphetogo Menyatso
Maru-a-Pula Horticulturalist

Camphill Donation

‘On the 15th July, MaP students put smiles on the faces of children at Camphill School. After receiving contributions from MaP’s Teachers Association (MAPTA), the Camphill Service members decided to use the money for the benefit of the students at Camphill.

We decided to buy the dolls because they have more than one use. The students can either play with them or teachers can use them during class for educational purposes such as learning parts of the body.’

~ Naomi Moleofe (5M)

Dr Kiran Bhagat on Teenage Wellness & Stress

Dr Kiran Bhagat is a physician and a cardiologist who visited MaP during the 2017 Wellness Week to talk about teenage wellness, focusing on the six factors of wellness: nutrition, exercise, sleep, addictions, stress & mindfulness.

Dr Bhagat returned to MaP twice (13th July and 2nd August) to further elaborate on the causes, effects and management of stress, anxiety and depression to students and parents.

~ www.maruapula.org/news
This term, former MaP drama teacher and alumni Tefo Paya returned to MaP as Director of Maitisong. The 32-year old award-winning actor has performed both locally and internationally, gaining extensive experience in the arts as a performer, curator, facilitator and lecturer.

"I enjoy drama because I'm a big dreamer, but when you act, you do. I've always been very active and drama allowed me to be active, but with a purpose," notes Mr Paya.

His acting career began at MaP, where he was 'introduced to art as a way of life' by Mr Warren Nebe. Through Mr Nebe’s guidance, Mr Paya developed his passion for theatre, and, upon completing his IGCSE at MaP, Mr Paya received a MaP Scholar award to attend Aiglon College, Switzerland, where he did Theatre Studies. In 2012, Mr Paya graduated with Distinction in a Master of Arts from Wits University. Subsequently, he joined MaP’s drama department and The Company@Maitisong.

"I am an artist who believes that art is a catalyst for growth and development," says Mr Paya. "As an actor, teaching has helped me value the profound purity of acting itself."

After leaving MaP in 2015, Mr Paya continued to work closely with The Company@Maitisong. That same year, his solo play, Morwa: The Rising Son, received a Standard Bank Ovation award during the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown. He returned to Botswana and began lecturing at AFDA Botswana, where he continued to focus on his career as an actor, director and filmmaker.

Mr Paya hopes to enhance Maitisong’s status as Botswana’s premier theatre. As a former student of MaP, he deeply values the theatre’s cultural tapestry. He intends to focus on changing the perception of the theatre. In future, he plans to build the Maitisong brand, which, in turn, will sell and market the theatre to the right consumers.

"This platform is huge. Look at the names of people who have been here. It is not just a school hall. It is a space that lives and breathes. There are character and history here which need celebrating."

~ www.maruapula.org/news

Mr McKenzie & Keystone Academy

"McKenzie gave the school a more sustainable structure, increasing fees and scholarships, and, most importantly, teacher salaries."

~ Extract from Maru-a-Pula: Celebrating 40-years

This term, the MaP community welcomed former Principal Mr Malcolm McKenzie, as well as ten students from Keystone Academy, Beijing, where he currently serves as the school head. Mr McKenzie was MaP Headmaster from 1991 – 1999, but began his tenure at MaP in 1987 as the Head of English. His time as MaP’s third headmaster has been affectionately called Malcolm’s Magnificent ‘90s by some and was characterised by a strong emphasis on scholastic study and sports. Mr McKenzie shares his experience below:

"Kat Kiddell and I are just back from Botswana, from our unforgettable expedition to that remarkable country, with the ten students who will remember what we did and saw for a long, long time. For us, the expedition was a huge success, so much so that we plan to repeat it again this time next year, with a different group of students.

We all did community service work in Gaborone, with Maru-a-Pula students. Our students experienced some adverse conditions of living that were surprising and they responded to these with compassion and care. We all learned, experientially, many valuable lessons about individual styles and general strategies for leading and managing groups. We also saw some remarkable sights, most obviously the rhinos that thrive under the protection of the Khama Rhino Sanctuary.

Finally, we camped in the glorious wilderness of the north of Botswana, with expert guides, and saw so many beautiful creatures: lions, a leopard, African wild dogs, elephants by the dozen, large herds of buffalo, giraffe, crocodiles, hippos, many species of antelope, zebra, warthog, baboons, monkeys, astonishing birds and so much more.

Speaking more personally, for myself, I can say that it was a great pleasure to be back at MaP and to see so many old and good friends. I feel proud of the way in which the school is thriving. It is such a fine institution. I went on two service projects, Naledi Teaching and to the orphanage in Gamodubu. I was really impressed with the commitment and the initiative of the MaP students. On a different note, I loved the performance orchestrated by the Juilliard group. I noticed a huge number of sports games – this has grown greatly since my time. There is so much going on in the school – it is really impressive."

~ Mr Malcolm McKenzie
MaP Principal, 1991 – 1999
~ www.maruapula.org/news
MEGA BOWL II: RETURN OF THE BOWL

Amarendra quickly recognized Richard Wagner’s “Ride of the Valkyries.” Later, Coach Emma delivered a standout performance by downing the collection of Exotic Flavours, a toxic mix of fizzy drinks, chili sauce, and much more. The round closed with K and M holding strong leads.

After a brief and delightful inter-round show from the 3 Musketeers, Round 2 commenced. Fresh from sitting out of the first round, the Staff team burst on stage and answered questions with an urgent fury. Led by Principal Andy Taylor, they sprinted through the categories of All About Quett, focusing on the late former president, and Maru-a-Pula, facts about MaP. The MB Specials were where the Staff team dominated. First, science teacher Joe Schmidt won Get Smashed! by correctly selecting and smashing two raw eggs into his head. Later, the Dance Battle took stage. As Insane in the Brain blared through the speakers, Ms Refilwe Bowe rocked Maitisong to its very foundation with her sizzling moves.

M leaped to an early lead and quickly handed off to Khumo for the final two steps. He dropped to all fours and tried to drag the orange into the hoop, to no avail. Eventually the other teams, even the laggard Staff, caught up. Craig of K bravely battled with Patrick and Khumo on either side. Patrick, through the sheer desperation of a house that was tired of losing, willed his orange into the hoop and feverously devoured his fruit, whole slices at a time. In epic fashion, he won the final event for J.

After the referees, Aamirah and Haadlyia, tallied the scores, MC Avi presented the last place trophy, a delicious bottle of (non-alcoholic) wine, to K House! It was a shocking turn for the defending champs. At last, only J and the Staff remained. Could J, having entered the Leap of Faith in dead last, climb all the way up to the top? Could they vanquish the demons from their last place finish the previous year? Could they overcome a team that had Bruce Nkala?

Yes. The night ended with J House proudly hoisting the three-metre tall, gleaming and glorious Mega Bowl trophy into the sky, as the crowd erupted for the greatest comeback in the history of the Mega Bowl. What a time to be alive. There truly is nothing on earth like the Mega Bowl.

The Mega Bowl is a team effort. Its success rests on the shoulders of the whole community, especially the following people:

Thomas, Saiyapal, Aamirah, Haadlyia, Coach Bob, Saffreen, Louis, Bokani, Laone, Wesi, Shaswata, Mina, Dumi, Brendan, Adarsh, YueTong, Aobakwe, Mandipa, Obvious, Yuhan, Kesh, Gamu, Olorato, Sharon, Tadenda, Tshepang, Avinash, Chef Ben, Ms Tsefisky, Nonofo, Boitumelo.

A special thank you to Mr Taylor for giving the Mega Bowl his undying support.

Join the Mega Bowl SPE next year!

~ Jack Golub

They thought the original MaP Mega Bowl was the pinnacle of achievement and insanity for Maru-a-Pula School. They thought wrong.

**MEGA BOWL II: Revenge of the Bowl (MB II)** tore through Maitisong Friday night, 21 July, leaving an awe-inspiring and confusing crater of elation in the minds of countless students and staff. Since before tryouts, this Mega Bowl was different. Nearly 30 students from Forms One through Six stepped up to participate on the planning team. This diversity of student input ensured that MB II would bring the school community together in an unprecedented way.

Following a week-long tryout, every House boasted a shining representative from each form. The anticipation for this Bowl took MaP by storm. The planning team’s hype machine dominated. First, science teacher Joe Schmidt won Get Smashed! by correctly selecting and smashing two raw eggs into his head. Later, the Dance Battle took stage. As Insane in the Brain blared through the speakers, Ms Refilwe Bowe rocked Maitisong to its very foundation with her sizzling moves.

Before the Leap of Faith could begin, Mr Bruce Nkala, MaP legend, rambled on stage and jumped atop a table under the spotlight. The chants of “BRUUUUULUUULUUUUUUUCE” filled the air.

He had come to boost the Staff team and represent them in the Dirty Dog. The lone carryover from last year’s Bowl, the Dirty Dog gives participants one minute to find gummy worms in a bowl filled with custard, and then place the worms on a plate using only their mouth. Eliza of M House, the second the countdown started, plunged her entire head into the bowl. Her sacrifice paid off with the victory.

The theme of this Mega Bowl was **RUN!**; as such, the only way it could end was with a mega relay race. Teams needed everyone to accomplish: 1) a complex set of tasks involving cups, index cards, and ping pong balls; 2) a sprint up and down the stairs in a three-legged race; 3) knocking an orange into a hula hoop using only a banana hanging from one’s waist and then eating both fruits. The stakes couldn’t be higher; it was worth more than any other event.

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Round 1 started with a flourish, as K jumped out to an unsurprising early lead. M, however, stayed in hot pursuit, buoyed by their success in Hidden Treasure, a Mega Bowl Special where contestants had to pop balloons to get the points inside written on paper. The teams traded incorrect answers, with K the only team to gain any traction. Their best moment came during the Name That Tune category, where
Students Reflect on MB II:

So much hit me during the unraveling of the most epic show at MaP so far! What was really shining to me through it all was how the Mega Bowl effortlessly brought the whole school together. I saw the MaP community that we so often speak of, where love radiates and happiness is the anthem.

~ Katlego Paakanyo (U6)

I had such an amazing time at the Mega Bowl! I haven’t had that kind of fun in a while. The vibe and the energy of Maitisong was insane. I’ve never experienced that kind of hype since I’ve been at MaP. It was so fun and filled me with immeasurable amounts of euphoria. The music was awesome... the hosts were lively, passionate and captivating. The quiz itself was so well thought-out and relatable. Everything was planned so well and it’s not often that things at MaP are organized to that extent. I want to especially thank the MaP Mega Bowl team for truly giving me the time of my life. I can’t wait ‘till the next one! Also... the chaotic atmosphere of the Mega Bowl allowed me to completely relax and not stress about exams for 3 hours and I’m grateful for that!

~ Chazha Seboni (5M)

THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING EVENT...a crazy and wild event that has never been seen before. I hope this is something that continues for a long, long time. It’s not only a fun time for the participants but the audience as well.

~ Zaairah Jeelabdeer (5J)

The MEGA BOWL was truly a life changing experience. I mean, before the Mega Bowl I had no idea you could do a three-legged race up a flight of stairs or use a banana belt to knock oranges into a hoop. I had an incredible time and I’m grateful to have been part of the greatest event ever. P.S. I also learned that raw egg tastes disgusting, so thanks for that.

~ Francis Tettey (3M)

MEGA MIND-BOWLING! CRAZY! It has changed my life beyond words. I keep thinking about it all the time. It was probably the best thing that’s happened to me. To all the people who didn’t come: shame! You missed out on a MaP legend! Mega Bowl will always remain THE MEGA BOWL. Thanks to everyone who made the Mega Bowl a huge success. This was the highlight of the year, no, my life so far! I loved participating in it. Congrats to all. This was the best thing that ever happened to me. I loved every bit of it. Thank you Mr Taylor for allowing this to happen. Thank you to the awesome MB Planning team. Thanks to everyone who participated.

~ Anusha Rao (1J)

Thanks so much for such an amazing time at the Mega Bowl. I really had a lot of fun. I have had the best year as a Form 1. I look forward to next year’s Mega Bowl.

~ Craig Kandiro (1K)

I thank you for bringing the Mega Bowl to MaP. We got the chance to see a different side of our Principal. It was a night to remember, especially because I am in Form 5 and this may be my last year at MaP. The MAP Mega Bowl has taught me that it’s okay to let loose and have fun because you only live once. #YOLO

~ Lintle Balositse (5K)

The MEGA BOWL was only THE best thing that has ever happened to MaP.

~ Safreen Khan (2K)

The Mega Bowl was completely INSANE this year and I’ve told everyone and anyone this. I think it takes a great deal of effort to pull something like the Mega Bowl off and it was really evident in the way things played out on the night. It’s really awesome that both audience members and participants can enjoy the night equally and that’s what really makes the Mega Bowl special.

~ Nicole Tsiane (L6J)

The whole event was brilliant. Despite the fact that this was only the second Mega Bowl at MaP, the effort put into it was tremendous. Here’s to hoping that the Mega Bowl will become an annual MaP tradition.

~ Shaswata Chowdhury (3L)
On the 13 July 2017, MaP’s Music Department presented Tutti e Soli, the annual concert that showcases MaP students’ musical talents. The evening of music featured vocalists and instrumentalists who performed a collection of classical, afro, alternative and pop music.

Hosted by Maitisong Director Tefo Paya, the evening opened with the MaP Orchestral Ensemble’s adaptation of Georg Philipp Telemann’s Overture for Recorder and Strings. They were followed by instrumental pieces from Amareesh Kathiresan (3K), Saindhavi Srirangam (SL), and the Form 5 Ensemble.

In between instrumentals, Harvard scholar Ms Genevieve Le Fevre, Nicole Tsiane (L6J) and Ntetha (MaP’s acapella group) sang covers of songs by Andra Day, Justin Hurwitz, Chris Brown, Rihanna and Ed Sheeran. The MaP Marimba Band closed the evening with Bambika by Mr Laone Thekiso, a roaring piece composed for their 2016 USA Tour.

Other highlights of the evening included a rendition of Wilhelm Popp’s Valse Gracieuse, performed by Mosele Mogwe-Jansen (SM) and Ms Alice Mogwe, in honour of Mr Archie Mogwe, and Mr Laone Thekiso’s Remembrance, performed by the MaP Marimba Band, in memory of loved ones who have passed on. A happy patron commented that the show was truly an illustration of the musical talent that exists in Maru-a-Pula. It was amazing!

Special thanks to MaP’s Music Department, especially Ms Celine Matthee and Mr Laone Thekiso, who organised this year’s phenomenal event.

~ www.maruapula.org/news

On the 28th and 29th June, the Creative Borders Collective, a group of students at the Juilliard School of Performing Arts, hosted a night of dance and theatre in Maitisong, featuring MaP students and local artists. The showcase was the product of intensive workshops with students from the Juilliard School of Arts. It featured a rendition of Nina Simone’s Feeling Good and an excerpt from Lorraine Hansberry’s A Raisin in the Sun. The evening also featured contemporary and hip hop dance and a performance by local dance crew Urban Empire.

On 20 June, celebrated poet and author Mr Barolong Seboni visited MaP to talk to Form 4 and 5 English students. He began by sharing a brief history of poetry in Botswana, citing that the movement was inspired by the African revolution.

Mr Seboni explained that during this period, there was an influx of political refugees into Botswana from all across Africa, especially Rhodesia and South Africa. They befriended Batswana youth, inspiring them to write about the liberation struggle, the war for independence and revolution.

Mr Seboni: ‘These exiled people [such as Keorapetse Kgositsile and Wally Serote] were young and vibrant. Some were writers and were older than we were and mentored us.’

On 1 February 1974, when St Joseph’s school was bombed, targeting Mr Abram Onkgopotse Tiro (leader of the Black Consciousness movement), writers in Botswana were moved to write even more against apartheid, racism and colonialism.

‘It got us thinking about how people were prepared to lose their lives for the freedom of their countries,’ noted Mr Seboni.

The establishment of the UB Writers’ Workshop allowed writers to practise their craft and interact with authors such as Bessie Head.

Mr Seboni then shared some of his poems with the students. His first published poem, Poet of Purpose, helped him gain a better understanding of his writing style. He wrote Blue Town Blues while he was teaching at Mater Spei College in Francistown; inspired by a young bāsǐ (street kid) he saw on his way home. For Tshepo is a dedication to his nephew, who survived the Soweto Uprising.

‘A lot of my poems are written based on what I see,’ said Mr Seboni.

After reading each poem, Mr Seboni invited students to analyse them, helping them understand the layers of each piece. In closing, he advised aspiring writers: ‘If it is in you, you will see the signs early. The trick is to listen to that voice inside you. It is a gift and you have to keep practising to perfect the talent.’

Thank you to Ms Mercy Erbynn and the English Department, who organised the sessions and Mr Seboni for sharing his talent.
On the 22nd July, MaP’s Ray of Hope service opened the Hands of Mercy Day Care Centre in Gamodubu village. Over the past year, Ray of Hope and the Gamodubu Childcare Trust worked tirelessly to teach the children in Gamodubu. Ray of Hope is a youth-run NGO whose mission is to educate and empower underprivileged children in Botswana. The NGO was started by MaP alumna Nandini Kochar and consists of committed MaP students who visit Gamodubu village every Saturday to tutor over 50 children.

Talent Search
This term, Form Five students participated in the Elite Division of the 2017 Talent Search, conducted by the Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa (IITPSA). The students used the online version of Talent Search, which tested their computational thinking (logical problem-solving) ability. Each of the students received a certificate for their efforts as follows:

Gold: Adarsh Nalamalapu (5K) and Lesedi Kereteletswe (5L)
Silver: Thabiso Nyoni (5J), Keagan Heldsinger (5K) and Gabriel Christi Michael (5K)
Bronze: Theo Groth (5M), Lebopo Sebusang (5M), and Kabelo Tsiane (5L)

According to their website, the Talent Search is the South African version of the Bebras Contest, which attracts more than a million participants around the world each year. The contest requires the use of Computational Thinking – those skills that are also required for Mathematics, Science, IT and Computer Applications. The Talent Search identifies learners with the skills but, at the same time, gives all an opportunity to develop these skills.

Karate Kids
This term, Tokelo Mohlomi Makepe (3K), Kagiso Mophuting (3K) and Mohammed Ali Hussain (4J) competed in the Zone 6 Karate Championships in Mozambique, where they each received a gold medal for individual Kata, Kumite and team Kumite. The trio also received gold medals from the Hayashi-Ha International Karate Championship in Barcelona, Spain.
MaP’s Form 2 classes took a field trip to the BAPS Shree Swaminarayan Mandir Temple in Block 6 and the Jamia Masjid Mosque in Extension Twelve (opposite University of Botswana). During the trip, students learned about the beliefs and principles of Hinduism and Islam.

At the BAPS Shree Swaminarayan Temple, students were met by Mr Soni, who talked about the different Hindu deities such as Krishna, whose marble statues can be found in temples across the globe. Once the statues are made, they are washed in sacred water and priests invoke the spirit of the deity to enter the statue. The statues, as well as other holy images, serve as visual metaphors for the invisible divine reality. Mr Soni explained that Hinduism is a way of life and that even though the religion has numerous deities, they believe in one Almighty. He further explained that in Hinduism, Moksha (which refers to various forms of emancipation, liberation, and release) can only be achieved through the help of a Guru (spiritual teacher) or with evolution through the process of Karma which, in some schools of Hinduism, includes reincarnation.

At the Jamia Masjid Mosque, students first learned that shoes are not worn inside because it is considered holy ground. They were met by Moulana Dawood, who began by explaining that the Islam greeting “as-salamu alaykum” means “peace be upon you” and must come from the heart. He shared and explained the Five Pillars of Islam (faith, prayer, charity, fasting & pilgrimage to Mecca) and the Six Articles of Faith in Islam (belief in Allah, angels, Holy books, prophets, day of judgement and God’s predestination). Afterwards, Moulana Dawood showed the students how to perform Wudu (ritual purification, which is also known as ablution) and shared scriptures from the Koran.
On Friday 21st July, eight MaP alumni visited the MaP campus to talk to Form 6 students about their university experiences. In an hour long session, they shared advice on taking a gap year, choosing a university, where to stay (on or off-campus), getting a part-time job, and doing extra-curricular activities, amongst other things.


Every year, MaP students receive tutoring and mentorship from a group of extraordinary Harvard University undergraduates for eight weeks. This year’s Harvard scholars are Genevieve Le Fevre, Riqi He, Haley Langan, and Brian Lai. In their time here, they immersed themselves in school life: teaching classes, leading SAT preparatory sessions with Form 6 students, and even hosting events for the student body.

~ www.maruapula.org/harvard
Term 2 Sports Report

Every year, Term 2 buzzes with a hive of sports from three leagues and a tournament: Botswana Integrated Sports Association (BISA) Junior Schools, BISA Senior schools, Independent Secondary Schools Sports Association (ISSSA) and our very own, MaP Mabonga Tournament.

**Botswana Integrated Sports Association (BISA):**

**Junior & Senior Schools’ League:**

- **U17 Basketball:** The team defended its championship at Nationals for the second year running.
- **U19 Basketball:** The team defended its championship at Nationals for the third year running.

**Individual awards:**

- **Daniel Nsingo (4L):** Best Defensive Player of the tournament for the second year running.
- **Lone Busang (3M):** Best Offensive and Most Valuable Player.
- **Tumelo Bowie (5M):** Best Offensive Player
- **Ahsante Puso (5K):** Most Valuable Player
- **Coach Speedy:** Best Male Coach (Seniors)
- **Mr Dambe:** Best Male Coach (Juniors)

Five players, four boys and one girl, were picked to go to Lesotho from the 25th of August to the 3rd of September for the COSASA Games: Daniel Nsingo (4L), Lone Busang (3M), George Lekoma (2M), Tumelo Bowie (5M) and Katlego Tlale (5L).

**Independent Secondary Schools Sports Association (ISSSA):**

**Netball:**

- All teams (U14, U16 and U19) got first positions. The U19 team has been the defending champion for 15 years.
- Coaches: Mr Abram, Ms Hirschfeld, Ms Bowe and Ms Phologolo.

**Football:**

- U14 boys came in second place, while U16 boys attained the third position.
- Coaches: Levels Sports, Mr Ndlovu, Mr Rannau, Mr Kabecha, Mr Mano and Mr Tsimako.

**Rugby:**

- Girls attained the first position for the fourth year in a row. Mildreth Magorimbo (L6K) was awarded the Best Goal Scorer. U19 Boys came in third place.
- Coaches: Ms Marsh, Mr Lees, Mr Moyo Mr Creighton and Mr Chivovo.

**Basketball:**

- U16 and U19 girls attained first positions. U14 and U16 boys came in third place while U19 boys got 1st positions.
- Coaches: Mr Matsese, Mr Gagobepe, Mr Sikwila, Mr Basele, Mr Dambe and Mr Mothusi.

**Mabonga Tournament:**

U19 boys and girls finished in first place.