



Dear Parents, Guardians, and Members of the St. Philip Neri Community,

We are delighted to share updates on the exciting events, programs, and developments at our school. This newsletter highlights key dates for the 2026 academic year, important reminders for candidate classes, an enriching holiday camp opportunity, and a summary of recent legal proceedings.

## **01 - CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Mark your calendars for an exciting year of learning, growth, and celebration! This calendar outlines the major academic, co-curricular, and community events for the 2026 academic year.

### **TERM 1: JANUARY - MARCH 2026**

#### **JANUARY**

- 6th: Term 1 Reporting Day for Boarding Learners
- 7th: Term 1 Opening Day for All Learners
- 9th: New Parents Orientation Day
- 12th - 16th: Opener Assessments
- 17th: Parents Academic Orientation - Kindergarten
- 24th: Parents Academic Orientation - Lower Primary
- 31st: Parents Academic Orientation - Upper Primary

#### **FEBRUARY**

- 7th: Diocesan Prayer Day
- **7th: Parents Academic Orientation - Junior School (JSS)**
- 14th: Scouts Founders Day
- 14th - 15th: Machakos County Level 1 Swimming Gala

- 16th - 20th: Midterm Assessments
- 24th: Career Day (Early Years) & Invention Convention (Upper Primary & JSS)
- 25th - 1st Mar: Midterm Break

#### **MARCH**

- 2nd: Boarders Reporting After Midterm Break
- 3rd: Day Scholars Reporting After Midterm Break
- TBC: Math Olympiad National Championship
- TBC: World Scholars National Championship
- 14th: Career Day - JSS
- 16th - 20th: End of Term 1 Assessments
- 20th: French Language Day
- 21st: World Poetry Day
- TBC: Chess Qualifiers
- 26th: Kindergarten Sports Day
- 31st: School Closing Day / Cultural Day

### **TERM 2: APRIL - JULY 2026**

#### **APRIL**

- 28th: Term 2 Reporting Day for Boarding Learners
- 29th: Term 2 Opening Day for Day Scholars

#### **MAY**

- 4th - 8th: Opener Assessments
- 15th: Pre-Primary School Trip

#### **JUNE**

- 5th: World Environment Day & Grade 5 Education Trip
- 23rd: Picking of Boarders for Mid-Term Break & Science Fair
- 24th - 27th: Grade 7 & 8 Naivasha Circuit Trip
- 24th - 27th: Grade 9 Coast Circuit Trip

#### **JULY**

- 30th: Reporting Back After Mid-Term Break (Boarders)
- TBC: Science Congress
- 31st: Reporting Back After Mid-Term Break (Day Scholars)
- 10th - 12th: Grade 6 Nakuru Circuit Trip
- TBC: World Scholars Global Championships
- TBC: Maths Olympiad Global Championships
- 20th - 25th: End of Term 2 Assessments
- 29th: Primary Sports Day
- 30th: JSS Sports Day
- 30th: Picking of Boarders for August School Break



### **TERM 3: AUGUST - OCTOBER 2026**

#### **AUGUST**

- 24th: Boarders Opening Day - Term 3
- 25th: Day Scholars Opening Day - Term 3
- 26th - 28th: Opener Assessments

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- (Dates to be confirmed for various club activities and internal events)

#### **OCTOBER**

- 5th - 9th: End of Term 3 Assessments
- 16th: Roses Graduation Ceremony & School Closing Day
- 21<sup>st</sup> Graduation Ceremony G6 & G9
- 26th - 29th: KPSEA Examinations
- 26th - 30th: KJSEA Examinations

Note: Dates marked as "TBC" (To Be Confirmed) will be communicated to parents and students as soon as they are finalized. Please look out for updates via the school's official communication channels.

### **02 - SCHOOL FEES COURT CLOSURE, CASE NO MCC/E002/2025**

Early this year a group of four parents went to court raising an issue of unilateral increase of school fees by the school management which they felt was unjustified and unprocedural. The school submitted itself to the full judicial process demonstrating before the court its commitment to the open-door policy, extensive consultation and clear justification on its part. Even before the court process began the school management made very deliberate efforts and engaged the parents to avert the court process. It should be noted that by the time of going to court the school had already invited all parents for an AGM in the spirit of continued engagement.

After careful consideration of the evidence presented, the court ruled in favour of St. Philip Neri School. The judgment affirmed that the school's fee policies were in compliance with all relevant regulations, and that the parents' claims lacked substantial merit. Additionally, the court awarded the school the legal costs incurred during the proceedings, which the school intends to pursue. This ruling reinforces and affirms the school's commitment to its core values key among them being fairness.

St. Philip Neri School's success in this case is not only a testament of its adherence to legal standards but also highlights the importance of arbitration as an effective means of conflict resolution. Moving forward, the school remains committed to maintaining an open-door policy, providing an ongoing avenue for addressing and resolving grievances within the institution.

We assure all stakeholders that the school's primary interest is the wellbeing and development of our learners and the best interests of the parents and guardians as well as the community around us. This resolve remains undeterred, the commitment unbroken and the spirit undampened. We appreciate the support you continue to give us in realising this vision.

### **03 - INTERVIEW DATES**

As valued members of our community, we are delighted to share that our 2026 Academic Year Admissions Interview period is officially scheduled from **Monday, 17th November 2025 to Tuesday, 2nd December 2025**.

Your trust and partnership have been the cornerstone of our success, and the best recommendations often come from you. We warmly welcome you to enrol younger siblings with us and extend this opportunity to your friends, family, and neighbours who are seeking a nurturing and excellence-driven educational environment for their children.

By referring new families, you help us strengthen and grow our vibrant community, ensuring our children learn and thrive alongside others who share our values.



For any inquiries or to secure an application form for a new student, please direct your referrals to our Admissions Office via 0719 221 401 or [info@stphilipnerschool.sc.ke](mailto:info@stphilipnerschool.sc.ke).

Thank you for being our most passionate ambassadors. We look forward to welcoming new members into our growing family.

#### **04 - ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP: WHERE TALENT MEETS ADVENTURE!**

Give your child an unforgettable holiday experience packed with fun, learning, and creativity! Our diverse camp program is carefully designed to nurture talents, build new skills, and foster teamwork in a dynamic and supportive environment.

##### **Sports & Athletics**

Get ready for action-packed sessions that promote fitness and teamwork:

- Football & Ball Games, Swimming, Athletics & Relays, Martial Arts, Skating

##### **Creative Arts**

Unlock your child's imagination and creative expression through:

- Arts & Crafts, Music & Dance Club

##### **Technology & Innovation**

Inspire the innovators of tomorrow with hands-on tech activities:

- ICT Skills & Robotics

##### **Academic Enrichment**

Challenge young minds beyond the classroom:

- World Scholars Cup Preparation & Chess Club

##### **Life Skills & Safety**

We also focus on essential personal development:

- Life-Saving Skills Course (conducted by certified professionals)

Each activity is supervised by dedicated and experienced facilitators ensuring a safe, engaging, and enriching environment for every camper.

Spaces are filling fast! Secure your child's spot today for a holiday filled with growth, joy, and new friendships.

##### **Camp Details:**

- **Dates:** Weekly sessions throughout the holidays
- **Time:** 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM daily
- **Ages:** Open to learners from Grade 1 to 8 from ANY school
- **Fee:** Ksh. 4,950 per child per week
- **Venue:** St. Philip Neri School Campus

#### **05 - NOTICE TO PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF GRADE 6 & 9 CANDIDATES**

As we approach a crucial period in the academic journey of our Grade 6 and 9 candidates, we wish to outline important guidelines that will support their preparation and ensure a smooth conclusion to the academic year.

##### **Attendance arrangements:**

- **Boarding Students:** No boarding offs will be permitted for candidate boarders during this period.
- **Day Scholars:** Normal learning will resume on Tuesday, 21st October 2025 at the usual time.

##### **School visitation:**

To maintain a focused learning environment, parents and guardians are kindly requested not to visit the school unless dropping off essential items.



### **Spiritual preparation:**

A special prayer session for our candidates will be conducted internally by the priest, teachers, and students on **Thursday, 23rd October 2025**. This will be an internal school event, and parents will not be in attendance.

### **School closure schedule:**

- **Grade 6 Candidates:** Wednesday, 29th October 2025 from 3:00 p.m.
- **Grade 9 Candidates:** Tuesday, 4th November 2025 from 7:00 a.m.

We sincerely appreciate your understanding and cooperation in adhering to these arrangements, which are designed to provide our candidates with the optimal environment for success.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support.

## **06 - SMARTSHULE: ENHANCING OUR DIGITAL LEARNING COMMUNITY**

We are delighted to announce the successful implementation of the SmartShule digital platform, which has been actively serving our Kindergarten department and will become the central hub for school-parent engagement in the coming year. This innovative system represents our commitment to transparent, collaborative education and 21st-century learning tools.

Following the successful Kindergarten rollout, SmartShule will now expand across all grade levels, serving as our primary platform for communication, academic tracking, and school community engagement throughout 2026. Parents will receive regular updates, fee statements, academic reports, and important announcements through this integrated system.

This marks an important step in our digital transformation journey, ensuring every parent stays connected and informed about their child's educational progress.

We look forward to this enhanced partnership with our parent community as we continue to leverage technology to improve the learning experience for all our students at St. Philip Neri School.

## **07 - THE SCHOOL MAGAZINE**

The school is set to release the Official 2024/25 Magazine "**The Neri Chronicle**" by the end of the month of October

## **08 - CONCLUSION**

As we wrap up another remarkable year at **St. Philip Neri School**, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our parents, learners, and staff for their unwavering support, teamwork, and commitment to excellence. Together, we have continued to nurture young minds, build character, and celebrate growth in every aspect of learning.

May this festive season fill your homes with joy, peace, and laughter.

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year 2026!**

With best wishes from the entire *St. Philip Neri School Family*.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrew Mwangi".

Andrew Mwangi – D/HOS Academics,

St. Philip Neri School.

