

HAPPENINGS IN Papua New Guinea

ASAROKA LUTHERAN SECONDARY SCHOOL, 2018

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Hello 'ol wantok' greetings from Asaroka. We apologize for not being up to date with 'happenings' here. I will try to make up and in this issue mention few things that had happened from January to November. *Tenkyu tru.*

1. PRINCIPAL & DEPUTIES

The pictures above (left to right) show our Principal: Martin Akiro and the Deputies-Pauline Basse, Aki Olisagave and Mr. Wakauve (caretaking the office after late Kubakure passed away).

Akiro and Olisagave were the two contenders for the Principal. They went to the National court and the court made a ruling that Martin was duly appointed first and so he is the Principal for this year. Please pray with us for whoever may be the next Principal.

2. FARMS TO BE REVIVED

Principal Martin Akiro says that the school farm will be revived. He says the school embarks and intends to plant rice. Rice seed has been given by NARI (National Agriculture Research Institute). Mr. Akiro has already engaged the tractor to clear and plough the ground.



All trees near and around the farm (below the southern cross tanks) have been cut into timbers.

A chain saw

has been bought for that purpose.

Mr. Akiro says that he has a plan that when we see that rice is growing well



we will move down to the big farm area. He says the rice can be used to feed the students and also sold. He says not only rice but also other crops will be considered. Work is already in progress.

3. DARK PLACES LIT UP



Another improvement to the school has been the setting up of bright security lights in dark spots at the school areas. Many dark places have lights now as bright as the sun. Because of this students who try to disobey or sneak out find it hard to do so.

Mr. Akiro also says that a 100kva standby generator will be considered for the school because of constant blackouts with PNG Power. He says approval and arrangements are in the pipeline with authorities and the supplier.

4. UNIVERSITY OF GOROKA T.P.

This year we had some students from the University of Goroka who came to do their Teaching Practice (TP). They were here for a term. The school organized a little farewell party for them. They thanked the school, teachers and students for treating them not as students but as teachers. Some of them expressed their sentiments and said they might consider coming here next year and teach here.

5. BANQUETS & GRADUATION

Grade tens and twelve's banquets were also organized before they sat for their exams. Many speakers mentioned many good things about life to students. Many said that failure is not final. Grade ten sit for their exam on 8 -12 October and Grade 12 sit for theirs on the 15 October to 19 November. Graduation for the grade 12 happens on the 2nd of November 2018. We expect this graduation to be a day of happiness and achievement for students who have come this far.

6. COMPUTERS & LIBRARY

The student's lab computers are functioning well. Few keep breaking down but we manage to force them to work! We teach grade 11 for enrichment purposes, which is helpful. Computer literacy is important these days.

The library is also helping and enhancing students in their learning. Not does it help students only, but also assist teachers in their research and teaching. We consider our library to be the best and clean building in the school.



7. CHAPLAIN'S TERM EXTEND

Our School's Chaplain's term of serving at the School has been extended to another 3 years term. The Chaplaincy



Office at Ampo has said that Pastor Benson Samarapa may continue to be at Asaroka Secondary School for another term. We welcome the decision and look forward to working with him.

Pastor Benson organizes morning devotions for teachers, ancillary staff and students on Mondays to Fridays, Sunday services on Sundays, visits families, do counseling, organizes Reach Out ministries with the Students Reach Out team and other administration duties. The Chaplain's office is the voice, ear, and hand of the Lutheran Church.

8. LATE KUBAKURE

Late Noelshar Kubakure, the appointed Deputy Principal Administration passed away some time ago. He has been serving at this school for almost 16 years. After a short illness he was pronounced dead at Simbu hospital. Kubakure was acting Principal until Martin Akiro was declared Principal by the court.

The school met Kubakure's funeral expenses and he is buried at his village in Simbu where he is from. His wife, 7 children and many grand children survive Noelshar.



Kubakure (right) and Joshph Kerpei at a grade 12 banquet in 2016.

Death is inevitable to everyone. The best one could do while living is having a good relationship with Jesus Christ and other fellow human beings.

We never know when, how, or where we shall be called. We came to this world on our own and we shall go on our own.

9. UNPREDICTABLE WEATHER

The weather here has been unpredictable. We have bright mornings; very hot day and heavy rain in the afternoon. Sometimes the sun is very hot all day – even weeks.



(Sun setting at Daulo top)

10. INDEPENDENCE DAY

The country celebrated its independence on 16th September. The Asaroka Community participated in singing the National anthem and other activities.

The Goroka show was a day of seeing all kinds of activities from traditional 'bilas' to 'singsing' and cultures displayed from all over PNG. *Below: Chaplain, Principal and 2 female teachers ready to go and celebrate.*



Finally, God continue to bless you all our friends in Adelaide and elsewhere. Without your prayers and support in many ways, we would not be able to run the school as we do. But your input contributes towards the whole running of the school and we are thankful.

God bless us all.

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