



# American School of Douala TALKING DRUMS

EDITION 18-19, ISSUE #16

DECEMBER 14, 2018

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## *From the Director's Desk* by Michael Breece

I would like to thank everyone again for attending the Holiday Production and those who helped organize the fantastic event. It was a great time for our community to come together and continue to celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

I hope that you were able to stay for the Grand Finale and witness my incredible dance moves, which ended with an over enthusiastic kick, a quick drop to the floor, and an attempt to recover with a spinning breakdance move.

As an educator, of course I'd like to use this mishap as an illustration to teach a lesson. At our professional development session on Mon-

day, I explained to the teachers that it is important for our students to value the importance of failure. As teachers and parents as well, it is critical that we allow children to take risks, fail, and try again. It is through this process that students will learn crucial life skills such as resilience and adaptability.

I recently read an article about Muffet McGraw, the head coach of Notre Dame women's basketball team, which is currently the #1 ranked team in the US. Coach McGraw recently won her 800<sup>th</sup> game. In an interview, Coach McGraw was asked how student have changed over

time. She responded that children have not changed, but parents have. She went on to say, "Parents today don't want to give their child a chance to fail. The first time there's adversity, the kids don't know what to do. They are not able to fight through things."

This is an important lesson for parents and educators. The world is changing very rapidly and our children will need to learn to take risks, fail, adapt and try again. Nelson Mandela said it best when he said, "Do not judge me by my successes, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again."



### Mark Your Calendar

Dec 15-Jan 6

Dec. Break

Jan 7

Classes Resume

Jan 11

PTA Bake Sale

Jan 12

Orphanage Visit

Jan 15

Board Meeting

# Christmas Break by Brandon

Today (Friday December 14), at about 3 PM, the students are having Christmas break for 3 weeks until January 7. We hope everyone has a fun, festive and safe holiday break. See you next year!

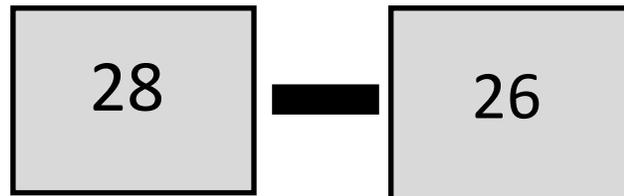


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# Basketball Scrimmage

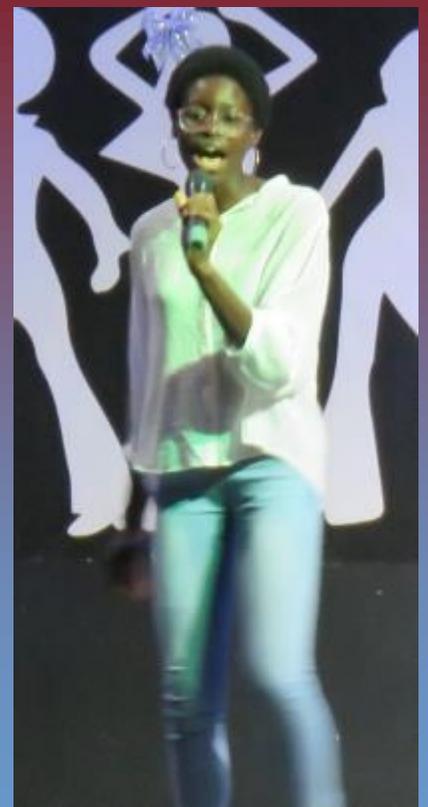


On Wednesday, there was a shout out to them for their win! a basketball game between ASD and Savio. ASD won by only two points (28-26). The match began at 4:45 and ended at 5:45. On the team are Sultan, William, Brandon, Josue, Michael, Andy, Maxime, Jonathan, Mboe. A big



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# Holiday Show



## *NHS Fundraiser*

NHS held a wonderful fundraiser today that was a complete success! They managed to tape both Mr. Elive and Mr. Breece securely to the gym walls! The money raised will go to a great cause: the OMC Orphanage in New Bell.



## *Girls Basketball Championship*

The girls had a great season of intermural basketball that came to a climactic end with the Hot Shots pulling out two wins in a row to crown themselves champions over the favored Warriors!! Congratulations to the Hot Shots!

