

# Kennedy KAPERS



## JFK Today

Highlights of the eleven weeks of the 2011 winter term are many, but a few certainly deserve special mention. Firstly, 2011 marks the 40th year that Ms. Sandy and myself have been leading the Kennedy School. The article on the 40th anniversary celebrations held at the end of February captures in words and images the spirit of this wonderful event. The 2011 ski season will be remembered as the one that was saved by technology. The weather was outstanding this winter, but we had few large snowfalls. Nevertheless, the skiing was very good due to the extensive snowmaking capacity here in the Saanenland and the cutting-edge piste grooming techniques that are now used on the slopes. The children skied on 50 weekdays, missing only one ski school lesson this season. We are particularly proud of our young ski team who won the category 5/6 team title and came third in category 3/4 at the annual Swiss Group of International Schools Junior



Ski Championships. This is no small achievement in that the SGIS race is one of the largest events on the international schools' sporting calendar, featuring 14 schools and close to 400 racers.

Another outstanding achievement this winter was the publication of the the John F. Kennedy 40th Anniversary 'Big Family Cookbook' that was launched on February 21st with a wonderful, well-attended party held at the school. Not only does the book contain hundreds of delicious recipes from around the world, but the book in itself is a work of art. More than 500 copies have already been sold, with all the proceeds going to the JFK Foundation for the development of the new library/auditorium. Heartfelt thanks and congratulation to the JFK Parents' Association and, in particular, Patrizia Montagni, along with Caroline Lo Faro, Caroline Poulmenti and Tina Lee, for leading this very special project. Each of us will have different fond memories of the 2011 40th anniversary winter season, but all will agree that it has been a great one.

The spring term is now upon us and with it will come many splendid experiences for all here at JFK, including Oral Communications Day, interest groups, spring class trips to the Ardèche region of France for grades 4 to 8 and the Environmental Education Center in Lenk for the younger children, plus numerous new units of study in the classroom. There is much to be done during the final term of the school year and we hope that all members of the school community will enjoy and learn from the many challenges that lie ahead.

WML

## Ode to Mr. Bill & Ms. Sandy

*Brilliant Mr. Bill and Super Ms. Sandy  
They built us a school - in the mountains made of candy.  
They organize ski races, discos and events and they even go to the trouble to invite parents.  
The school is magnificent and it is cool  
It is small in size but - oh, what a jewel!  
40 years old, wow, what a feat  
They run it with such care, what a wonderful treat.  
We live in the beautiful Saanenland  
Let's jump up and down and give them a hand!  
A round of applause is what they need  
For loving us and helping us plant the seed.  
The seed of education, of learning and growth  
Thank you for everything - to you both!*  
grades 2/3

## Skiing Fun

I went skiing. It was hard work. After I was very tired!

*Victor D'Hendecourt, Reception.*

I loved my first day of skiing so, so, so much! On the next day I fell and hurt myself, but I didn't cry! I love skiing every day.

*George Livanos, grade 1*





## The Rocky Monster Show

We performed our end of autumn term play on December 2nd, 2010 in the Landhaus. Before the show started there was a Christmas market. There were many stalls that the



parents organised with lots of goodies and treats, beautiful wreaths, gingerbread houses and pretty jewelry. We had a lady who did our make-up who is a professional make-up artist from Paris. Everyone looked great. The costumes were good, too. There were bats, cats,

crazy monsters, rock stars and dancers. It was a fantastic musical. I played an old crazy woman from the Arkham Village. We all sang 'Always Look On The Bright Side Of Life' at the end and danced to 'Thriller'. I had a fabulous time!

*Liza Semenova, grade 7*

In the play there were monsters, scientists, a masked professor who turned into a rock star, villagers, cats and bats and mice. Everyone looked great in their costumes and the Pavilion students were very cute! The make-up was amazing and all the hard work paid off!

*Gaby Perez de Villegas, grade 7*

The play was fantastic! All the actors did amazingly well and, no matter how big or small the parts were, every student swept the audience off their feet! Before the play there was a professional photographer taking photos of me and my assistants. My favourite part of the play was when I got my make-up done as the professor of genetics. There was even a very good review about the musical in the Saanen paper! I look forward to watching the DVD of the play soon.

*Dimitri D'Hendecourt, grade 6*

## Interview with Ms. Marisha

Since the end of the autumn term, we have had a new house staff member working in the boarding house. Her name is Ms. Marisha and she comes from the Gold Coast of Australia. Ms. Marisha first came to Switzerland working as a nanny for a family in Gstaad. She loves working here at JFK because of all of the 'special' events like the Fondue Party and last term's boarder Christmas dinner. She has especially enjoyed working as a teaching assistant with the reception/grade 1 class in the Pavilion this winter term. Her favourite



season is the summer because of all the outdoor activities she can do. I like Ms. Marisha because of how she lets us have freedom in the boarding house when we complete all of our chores and every morning I wake up because of her infectious laugh that comes up the stairs from the girls' floor to the boys. Ms. Marisha is a great person and I hope that you can get to know her soon!

*Mergen Ganbold, grade 6*

## Life As A Boarder

Good morning, girls! It's Monday morning and it's 7:30. Time to get dressed! One of THE hardest things in boarding is waking up - we usually should be ready to have breakfast by 7:45. When we've eaten breakfast and cleared the table we go back to our rooms and complete our chores. Now at the boarding house they have a new system of points. Every time you complete a chore successfully you get a point - chores such as keeping the room tidy, closing the shutters, being on time for breakfast, etc. At the end of the week, Ms. Rachael, the Housemother, takes the average of your points and times it by seven. On Friday she announces the points. If your score is over 90 points, you will receive normal pocket money and privileges, but if it is below 90 points you will receive a CHF 10 reduction from your pocket money.

What I find fun is that on weekends we get to do activities. Weekends are way better than school days. On the weekends, we get to watch movies at night and we get way more free time to go on our computers and play video games, while, on school nights, after dinner we immediately start our homework and then, after some free time, go to bed. The first time I ever went into boarding I expected it to be different. I thought (I was small at this point) that I was going to cry every night and want my mother, but it actually was better than that. I expected the beds to be different, and so on. Boarding is almost the same as being a day student except that you eat three meals a day at the boarding house and you spend your nights there. The first night you board you might feel sad and homesick, but every night gets better and better - you soon start to feel less sad. It's really fun and it's an opportunity to meet new friends and have a right start to education and life!

*Ambra Moore, grade 7*

## New Students at the Pavilion

Starting a new school can be tough! When I came to this school I didn't know anybody! Sometimes it can be hard to meet people at a new school, you feel bashful, and scared that people will tease you. I was happy when the new students came to JFK International School. We all introduced ourselves to the new students in our class this winter term 2011.

*Mia Moore, grade 2*



## Wonderful Additions to Pavilion

Joining a new school can be tough! It can be scary, but sooner or later you will find some friends. The Pavilion is an amazing place. In the winter you go skiing on the sparkling snowflakes, and in the summer, hiking and camping under the hot sun.



Some new people joined the Pavilion. Their names are Luna, Cosima, Aleco, Victoria, Amber, Beatrice, Josephine, James, Rex, Nacho, Theodora and me.

They are really nice.

Rex is funny and kind.

Josephine is nice and stands up for me.

Luna is helpful and loyal.

Nacho is nice and kind.

Beatrice is joyful and always happy.

Theodora is wonderful and helpful.

Amber is always helpful, kind, caring and loyal.

James is loving.

Victoria is very funny and good at French.

Aleco is cheeky but kind.

Cosima is a good friend.

So why don't you come to the Pavilion, it is really the place you want to be!

*Amberley Nuttall, grade 2*

## The Palace Disco

This term we had a disco at the Palace GreenGo! Most people came. We had a great time and the D.J played music that we really liked! There was popcorn, pasta, M&M's, gummy bears and lots of other yummy food! We danced and sang to the songs. We jumped to the music and even the boys danced! I think that we all had a fun time! We wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Scherz from the Palace Hotel, the parents of Alex and Sabrina, for hosting this wonderful Valentine's Day party! It was really great!

*Jacqueline Lee, grade 4*

## Reading Partners

Every Friday, Mr. Kevin's grade 5/6 class goes to read to the reception/grade 1 children in their classroom. We have lots of fun! First, our teacher, Mr. Kevin, goes to



get some easy-to-read picture books from the library. When we get to the Pavilion, Mr. Kevin and Ms. Jenny assign reading partners. We read one book together and talk about it. Then we switch

partners and read to another student. This way we all get to know each other better. One time the younger students came to our class and we made little forts out of our desks and blankets. It was fun to read the stories inside our shelters. Mr. Yon took us one time to read the comic books that we wrote and made in his information technology class. When we go to read with Ms. Jenny's class, we have lots of fun but for me it is more than just fun because I can improve my reading skills and help develop a passion for reading in other students.

*Allegra Samaranch, grade 5*

## The Student Council

Have you ever wondered what Student Council is? If you have, read on! The Student Council is made up of kids from each class who every other Wednesday meet at the boarding house and try to organize fun events for the school. In every class they have at least one person who gets chosen for the Student Council. The way a class rep gets picked is that you make a speech to the class and they vote for two people that they think would be good class reps. Then the teacher will add up the points and the person with the most points is chosen. I am the representative for Mr. Justin's grade 4/5 class. The other pupils who were voted as Student Council members are: Anthony Winfree - President, Luis Gonzalez Caro - Vice - President, Dimitri D'Hendecourt - Treasurer, Feyona Lohr - Secretary

Nikita Fedulin is the rep for the 8th grade, Salman Al Howaish for the 7th, Kieran McKee for the grade 5/6 class, and Alex Lo Faro and Bella Livanos for grades R to 3 at the Pavilion

I wanted to be in the Student Council because I wanted to make the most of my time here at JFK. I ran for Vice President but Luis got it. I didn't really mind because I thought that I wouldn't get it anyway. So when we were able to run for class rep I decided to give that a try too.

These are **some** of the fun events that we have organized so far this school year:

A disco in the drama room for 4th to 8th grades, bowling for the Pavilion children instead of the disco, Pajama Day when you had to bring in a book for the library, raising money for Remembrance Day by selling poppies and donating the money to a charity, a bake sale, and a disco at the Palace GreenGo for Valentines Day!

Also something very exciting is that we are talking about the school getting a mascot! We would like to have a jaguar! We hope to be called the 'JFK Jaguars'! We are very excited and might get a costume or a BIG jaguar toy!

I hope you have learned more about the Student Council.

*Jacqueline Lee, grade 4*



# 40th Anniversary Homecoming Weekend

The 40th Anniversary Homecoming Weekend held February 25 to 27 was a spirited affair with great events, good food, good friendship and a wonderful family atmosphere. These special celebrations really began on



**Womens' Ski Race Champs**

prepared from recipes in the cookbook.

The Homecoming Weekend started on Friday February 25th with a traditional Kennedy School ski race and fondue party. Over 150 students, parents, friends and alumni participated in the race and 300 attended the fondue party which followed. Saturday February 26th



**Competitors for 20+ Years**

friendly brunch held at the Place Hotel. The 100 people who enjoyed the brunch were treated to a relaxing, very fitting finale to a lovely weekend.

The photos on this page speak volumes about the highly successful, totally enjoyable and unifying experience the 40th Anniversary Homecoming Weekend was for all



**Young Alumni at Fondue Party**

February 21st with the launch of the the JFK cookbook, entitled 'Our Big Family Cook Book', at a wonderful party held in the school garden. The many guests at the book launch were treated to a gorgeous buffet of wonderful dishes

featured the gourmet gala dinner and dancing to live music at the Chlösterli Restaurant. Many of the 140 people who attended the dinner felt it was the best party of the Gstaad winter season! The final event of the weekend was an elegant, warm and participating members of the school family. Congratulations and sincere thanks to the JFK Development Office and to event coordinator, Tanya Eckes, for organizing the perfect 40th anniversary party!



**Gala Dinner**



**Gala Disco**



**Palace Brunch**



# Ski Teacher Luncheon and Awards Ceremony

Organizing over 90 people every day to participate in our ski school program in a safe and efficient manner is not an easy task. Thanks to all members of the JFK staff and our 12 ski teachers from Snowsports Saanen-Schönried for another very productive ski season. On March 17<sup>th</sup> a luncheon was held at school in honour of our ski

## Skiing Achievement Awards

Nacho Fiero Botin, Theodora von Liechtenstein, Celine Salmi, Cosima Banon, Harrison Rupp, Alexandre Senacq, Estelle Fischer, Theodora Livanos, Lucrecia Fiero Botin, Tiare von Meister, Jeremy Pleydell Bouverie, Geraldine Leksztan, Luis Gonzalez Caro

## Distinguished Skiers

Fernando Lopez Oggier, Andrea Tritten,, Kieran McKee



teachers, followed by the annual winter awards ceremony in the theatre auditorium of the Hotel Landhaus. As the photos show, the afternoon was a great success. Special congratulations to all award winners!

## Winter Academic Honour Roll

Cosima Banon, Alex Lo Faro, Alexandre Senacq, Sam Grayson, Jacqueline Lee, Theodora Livanos, Nicolette Salmi, Sabrina Scherz, Tatiana Papageorgiou, Charles Lee, Chloe Lo Faro, Frederic Roth, Anastasia Sherdits, Tiare von Meister, Ilya Stolskiy, Fernando Lopez Oggier, Ambra Moore , Jeremy Pleydell-Bouverie, Kamalei von Meister, Geraldine Lekzstan, Feyona Lohr

## Willy-Benz Matti Award

Ambra Moore



Bryce Lovell, Ski School Director - and Dad



## Migros Cup

On Sunday January 23 I went to Schönried for the Migros Cup. When I arrived I went to study the course. I was given the number 470. I had to wait for my turn for one hour. I thought I raced fast. I came 20th. I would love to do another Migros Cup next year.

*Hugo Urgell Owen, grade 7*

It was very icy. Three gates were narrow and three gates were very wide. After the race we went to play and had hot dogs and Rivella. I



raced in the 2001 category. My number was 140. I was in 7th place. I was very happy.

*Fleanor Hamilton, grade 4*

The course was fine. There were so many kids participating and a lot of people watching. I played and I ate after the race was finished. I was on the podium! I came third! I took a photo with Mr. Bill!

*Victoria Hamilton, grade 3*

The race was hard. Luckily, nobody hurt himself. Everything was fine. I liked the games afterwards.

*Petar Yordanov, grade 4*

## Palace Cup

On Friday the 22nd of January, the Kennedy School had its second class race: the Palace Cup. I feel a little weird talking about it because it is my family that sponsors this annual ski race. After Kim Kortlepel graduated, in 2007 the Kim Cup became the Palace Cup which my parents sponsor for the school. Of

course, the Palace is not responsible for setting up the race course, they leave that to the professionals, this year our ski teachers Mr Andre and Mr Peter! The Palace takes care of the prizes and the entertainment! Unfortunately, this year the race did not take place in its usual spot on the Wispile, due to the lack of snow. It is usually much nicer on the Wispile because it is sunnier, and the parents who do not ski can still watch their child(ren) race as the end of the course is reachable by foot. This year, the race was on top of the Eggli. It was a little icy, but considering the conditions it went



well. The food and drinks, as well as the prize giving, were at the bottom of the Saanen Eggli. It was so cold, I felt sorry for the musicians. They left a little before the end as their fingers were frozen! One of our head waiters, Maurizio, was responsible for the buffet. That evening, I did not see him at the Palace - I think he was still defrosting! This year was very special for me because when the first Palace Cup took place in 2007, I won my first cup with a second place finish! But since then, I have tried and tried and tried, and nothing! Finally, this year, I got my second Palace Cup. I came in 3rd place in my group. I was so happy! I really wanted a Palace Cup! Thank you, Dad and the Kennedy School, for organizing such a fun race! I can't wait for next year! I just might add a first place Palace Cup to my collection!

*Alex Scherz, grade 5*

*PS All members of the Kennedy School community wish to express their appreciation to Alex and his*

*family for sponsoring such a wonderful JFK event! Many thanks!*

## SGIS Victory

On Friday February 4, 2011, the Kennedy School hosted the SGIS Championship Race on the Eggli and competed against 13 other international schools of Switzerland. There were two race courses set up for this huge event with 400 skiers racing. The small course was on the Huble lift. It was very fun but also very scary because of the technical difficulties involved with the icy conditions. Two kids fell and were



taken by helicopter to the hospital, but they were both OK. Since those two accidents happened, we did not do the second run on the small course. Two successful runs took place on the Eggli for the older students. When we finished the race we had to take down all the poles and bring them to the bottom of the two courses. At the end of the day was the prize giving. In the junior category, the Kennedy School came in first place overall with Chloe Lo Faro taking 3rd and Tiare von Meister coming in second place in the girls' category five. For the boys, Andrea Tritten came in third place, Alessio Adamo in second and, for a clean sweep, Kieran McKee came in first place! Wow! The SGIS is one of the best races that we have and we are looking forward to holding onto our first-place junior category cup again next year.

*Tiare von Meister and  
Andrea Tritten, grade five*



## 39th Friendship Race

This winter JFK organised and sponsored another fantastic Friendship Race, held on the Eggli on March 2nd, 2011. This competition was, as always, for the children of Saanen and the Kennedy School and this year the ski club of Grund also participated. There were 140 competitors in all. We studied the course. The start was really icy and the whole course was quite difficult. With number 134, I was glad when I finished. At the end we had the prize ceremony when those of us who had passed the Racing



Test this winter received our badges and then the lovely gold, silver and bronze Friendship Race medals were presented to all the race winners.

*Jean Baptiste Lecourt, grade 8*

## Ice Skating

On Thursday in the winter term, the Kennedy School ski program has 'Options Day'. There are many different options to choose from such as skiing technique, race training, freeride/freestyle, snowboarding, telemarking and cross country skiing. But my favorite choice is ice skating! I love ice skating because you can twist and jump and practice new tricks like skating backwards or spinning really fast. I enjoy going ice skating with Ms. Petra and Ms. Vanessa! If you are a boy, you might prefer playing hockey with Mr. Andi. Normally, Ms. Sharron and Mr. Jack provide the ice skaters and hockey players with an appetizing afternoon snack. Thank you to all of these

people for helping to make ice skating the best option for me!

*Allegra Samaranch, grade 5*

On options day I went skating with Ms. Petra. She gave us juice and water! We had a nice time.

*Josephine Gottschalk, Reception*

On Options Day I went ice skating. Ms. Petra taught us to skate on one leg. She taught us to spin in the air. At break time I fell over. I played with Luna and she said "If you fall over it does not matter, it is just practice". Ms. Petra was very, very, very, very GOOD at ice skating. Then it was time to go! It was very very fun!

*Bea Gottschalk, grade 1*

## Free Skiing Fun

On Friday February 4 we had our SGIS race. However, some of us didn't get to race and we spent the day with Ms. Petra. We had so much fun! Lavrik, Nick, Kiril and I went to the Eggli and then to the Videmanette. We did everything - jumps and bumps, different runs, off piste! We even stopped for some drinks and French fries.

*Hugo Urgell Owen, grade 7*

I was skiing with Ms. Petra on the Eggli and Videmanette. We had lots of fun. We did jumps and bumps. Sometimes it was hard and sometimes it was easy. We had a picnic in Chalberhoni. I had chips and a coca cola. After lunch we skied and joined everyone after the race.

*Lavrick Markov, grade 6*



## Ski Teachers 2011

*The Kennedy School ski program is a very important part of the winter term. Under the leadership of ski director, Mr. Bryce Lovell, twelve excellent ski teachers were hired this winter to teach all levels of skiing every afternoon. Here is some information about our new ski teachers, written by students in grade 8.*

Mr. Urs Hasler is my ski teacher. He is 26 years old, and he has been skiing for 22 years. This is his first year of teaching the JFK kids. Once while skiing, he broke his arm. In



spring he does karate and likes mountain biking. He never went to special race training, but he loves skiing. He likes music too, and his favourite group is Metallica. He has a girlfriend, but he is not married. His favourite food is spaghetti.

*Azra Dervisevic*

Another ski teacher new to JFK, Mr. Fabian Mosching is an excellent snowboarder as well as a great skier. He is a pro freestyler at snowboarding, and among the tricks he can do are backflips, front flips, 360's, 540's, and 720's, just to name a few. He was born and raised in Switzerland and he started to snowboard when he was very young. It wasn't until a bit later that he learned how to ski. He told me that he even participated in the 'High Fly' once or twice.



*Anthony Winfree*



## Ski Teachers (cont'd)

Mr. Andi Matti was born in Bern. He went to the JFK School when he was younger - and he won the Distinguished Skier Award! He is now a ski teacher for the Kennedy School. He is my ski teacher and he has really good technique. He is very good at freestyle and he can do 360's, 720's, backflips and front flips. He has such good technique because when he skis he really concentrates a lot and he is one of the best at carving. In his free time he plays playstation, he skis, he watches TV, or he spends time with his friends. His favourite foods are



bratwurst with rösti, hot dogs, pasta, and ice cream. He likes to travel and has visited many places around the world.

*Alberto Girardi*

Ms. Vanessa Schwenter is a young woman who grew up in the Swiss Alps. She loves teaching us skiing and is hoping to do it again next year. Her favourite type of ski trick is a cross and therefore she practices it a lot. She loves carving and is usually found on the slopes making great turns. If she could go anywhere for a week she would go to a warm country. After all, every woman loves the sea, beach, and sun.

*Feyona Lohr*



## Interviews with Three New JFK Students

My name is Nicolette and I have interviewed Azra Dervisevic for the Kennedy Kapers. Azra is a new student. She started at the Kennedy School at the beginning of January. She is fourteen years old and she doesn't have any sisters or brothers but she has lots of friends here and at her home. Before coming to the Kennedy School she lived in Bosnia. She says it is different because her old school was much bigger and she wasn't a boarder there. She enjoys skiing even though she only started when she arrived here two months



ago. As well as the skiing, one of her favourite subjects is English because she finds it interesting. She doesn't like science so much. If Azra could change anything about this school, she would like to have more free time. During her free time she likes hanging out with her friends at the boarding house.

*Nicolette Salmi and Sunita Shahi, grade 4*

Kristina Khanenko is a Russian girl who was born in June 2000. She was christened in the Russian Orthodox faith. Kristina is currently living in Saanen and attends the JFK School which is where I interviewed her. Her favourite sport is swimming and she enjoys eating pasta which must give her great energy for her swims. Her favourite singer is Lady Gaga, who I do not like. The type of pet she has is a cat. I like dogs more. The name of her old school is called Yacmtlau - I can't read the name myself.

*Constantine Goulandris, grade 4*

Hello, my name is Estelle Fischer and for the Kennedy Kapers I interviewed a girl in my class called Eleanor Hamilton. She is in grade 4 like me and is nine years old. I have known her since I was a little girl. She recently came to the Kennedy School and I am going to tell you a bit about her. Eleanor's favourite food is the famous Japanese food named sushi. She thinks sushi tastes good because it contains a combination of rice and different varieties of fish, with the exclusive taste of seaweed. In my opinion,



sushi is a very good food and I enjoy eating it as well. Good choice, Eleanor! Now onto her favorite country. Her favorite country is Greece. I'm guessing she likes this country because she is half Greek herself. She told me that she likes this country because there are beautiful oceans and beaches. Now for her favourite animal. Her favorite animals are all kinds of dogs. She also has one called Snowflake who is very cute. The dog is white and light brown, has blue eyes and is very little. Here are the sports she likes to do. Her favourite sport is skiing. She likes to ski and enjoys doing it every day. She is used to having daily ski lessons. In my opinion she is so very good, too! Finally, she was born and raised in Geneva and now lives in Rougemont. This was a little information about Eleanor and I hope you learned something about her.

*Estelle Fischer, grade 4*