

Tenth Stars



A Botswana Examinations Council Publication Profiling the 2018 BGCSE Top Achievers



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COUNCIL

10th ANNUAL *Excellence Awards*



In collaboration with





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WHO WE ARE

■ WHO WE ARE?

The Botswana Examinations Council (BEC) was established by an Act of Parliament, Act No.11 of 2002, as a body corporate governed by a Council. The council has fourteen members appointed by The Minister of Basic Education, The University of Botswana, private schools, teachers' organisations, the private sector, the public, Human Resource Development Council (HRDC), Botswana Open University (BOU) Botswana Qualification Authority (BQA), Botswana Police Service and the Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM). BEC was established as a parastatal to execute the examinations of the national curriculum for the Ministry of Basic Education.

■ OUR FUNCTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

BEC is mandated 'to conduct school examinations and any other examinations for the Ministry of Basic Education and issues certificates in respect of such examinations.' BEC's key business activity is the development, administration, accreditation and certification of school examinations in the primary and secondary education sub-sectors.



MISSION COMMENTARY:

Credible: Trustworthy and Error free assessments and examinations that conforms to both the local and international standards.

Responsive: Examination and Assessment system that is affiliated to the national curriculum, takes into cognisance candidates with special needs and is not detached from current issues in the environment, also relevant to the local market.



DIRECTORATES

Examinations work has been grouped into two core business areas within the Directorates of Product Development and Standards and that of Examinations Administration and Certification. The other Directorates; Corporate Services, Research and Policy Development, Information and Communications Technology and that of Human Resource provide support services required in ensuring that examinations are conducted efficiently and cost effectively.

In addition to these Directorates, there are stand-alone specialised support Divisions. These Divisions are Office of Strategy Management (OSM), Compliance and Quality Assurance (CQA), Internal Audit (IA), Legal Services Division (LSD)



OUR VISION

Provision of a credible and responsive assessment and examination system.



OUR MISSION

To be a provider of accessible and globally competitive qualifications.

VALUES

- Excellence • Integrity
- Transparency • People Focus

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Foreword by the **Executive Secretary**

This is now the 10th year of the Botswana Examinations Council Excellence Awards, hosted in collaboration with the Ministry of Basic Education. The awards ceremony recognises and celebrates outstanding performance at the three levels of our general education system. The teachers, schools and Parents and Teachers' Associations from where the awardees come are also celebrated at this annual event.

While there are hundreds of students who do well across the country, only 36 are awarded prizes for outstanding performance. It is for this reason that this magazine is published to share with others elsewhere who are not able to attend. The hope is that the personal stories and perseverance of the award recipients would motivate them to do even better. Multiple copies of the magazine are therefore placed in school libraries throughout the country. The prizes given to the recipients are generously donated by the private sector. Some of these companies have been partnering with the BEC for quite some time. I should therefore like to express our sincere gratitude to all of them. We hope more and more companies will join hands with the Council to continue this noble endeavour.

After 10 years of running the awards, it is probably time to review them to ensure that they do not only benefit the awardees, but all students, teachers and parents in our schools. It is critical to ensure that they serve the purpose for which they were intended.

Finally, I wish on behalf of the Council, Management and staff of the Botswana Examinations Council, and the Ministry of Basic Education to congratulate this year's recipients and wish them the best in their future endeavours.

Brian Mokopakgosi
Executive Secretary



Congratulatory Message

By 2017 Presidential Award Recipient - Lefika Matlho

It is now time for us to celebrate the young, brilliant minds that have worked intensely in pursuit of success. As most of them would agree, the path to success is not a straight one, it is full of twists and turns that require a skilful navigator to outmanoeuvre. Their success is most certainly not accidental; it is a result of hard work, resilience, discipline, a strong sense of determination and maybe even countless sleepless nights. They have all been able to emerge victorious despite the challenges they encountered.

From me and the rest of the country, we take this special moment to commend the praiseworthy award recipients as they have made us proud beyond measure!

The end of one journey signifies the beginning of another. They now transition to higher levels which will, with no doubt, be more challenging to elicit growth in their lives. The award ceremony is not just a commemorative event; it is a special moment that will be engraved in the hearts of all award recipients as an anchor, a source of strength, reassurance and confidence for the journeys that lie ahead. Jubilant as we are, we must remember that attaining a level of success only attracts one to embark on another journey with a higher target of success. Success in one journey does not guarantee victory in the next one unless the latter is approached with more grit, wit and effort. To all the victors, embrace the challenges that lie ahead, knowing that you are capable of achieving greatness if you set your mind to it.

One issue that I feel I have most neglected is mental health. But it is one of the vital essentials for one to work at an optimum level. A troubled mind is unfocused and will not produce the best possible results. I urge you guys to take care of your mental health, seek the counsel of others if an issue bothers you, they might not be able to remedy the situation but they will share ideas that will bring you a step closer to a better and more stable mental state. A healthy mind creates a good appetite for success. I wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

And remember, you can do all things through Christ who gives you strength.

Lefika



2018 PSLE, JCE and BGCSE Top Achievers during the 2018 Annual Excellence Awards Ceremony

“If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception, it is a prevailing attitude.”

Colin Powell

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Perfect Debut

Anthony Adam has never been a recipient of the BEC Excellence Award, having missed two opportunities at PSLE and JCE levels, but made his last chance count.

He was only nine (9) years of age when Oxford University became his ultimate goal, he did not just think he will go to Oxford; he knew he will go there. Fast forward to nine years later and he is only two (2) years away from living his dream. Though there was doubt along his journey especially when he failed to get a merit in JCE, his hope has been restored handsomely by a top spot finish in the 2018 BGCSE. Anthony is blessed with a smart brain but never cared much about other subjects other than his favourites Maths and Science until one of his teachers at Junior School, Mr Mudongo picked up that he had attitude towards his other subjects and talked him out of it. It is a talk he will forever be grateful for as it pushed him to want to be a perfectionist in everything he does, both in the classroom and outside as he even earned a rugby national team call up because I always wanted to be perfect," he shared. Anthony recalled how he used to struggle with one topic in Physics - Relative Velocity which only took him 48 hours without sleep during Easter holidays to master. The perfectionist in him did not spend two days on books for nothing, he managed to understand the subject and simplified the formula and produced a simplified document which he shared with his school mates.

When he was doing Form three (3) his drive for perfection was given a boost after reading about the 2016 Golden Star Kago Motsoma who had attained nine A* and an A in his ten subjects. "I thought that was quite a record and thought I could beat it" he said. He said Kago was always busy with his studies and he wanted to emulate him. "I was always troubling my teachers with questions and if I couldn't find the teacher I was looking for at the time I would just ask the nearest teacher I come across," he said. He might not have surpassed or at least matched his role model Kago Motsoma's grades but the former St Joseph's College student has amassed enough points to see himself live his dream of being the 2018 Golden Star.

Ms. Ronetta Adam still can't believe her son has attained eight A*, she gets emotional and could not hold back her tears as she narrates how their journey to the Excellence Award was. She revealed that her son barely rested even when she insisted that he should take a break and go for movies with friends, to which he would reply by saying movies will still be there after the examinations when he will have lots of time to watch them. "When I saw his results I felt like climbing the highest mountain and announce it to the world," she said. She describes him as a very mature self-driven young man who is close to perfect and every parent's dream.

His father Mr. Dominic Adam attributes his son's excellence to the competitive spirit he has. "He always wants to be on top, even at home he competes with me," said the proud father. One other person who believes Anthony is a perfectionist is his cousin Triston Brown who said besides his natural intelligence he is a hard worker who once his mind is set on something he gives it his best. "We missed him when he was studying for his BGCSE because he was always on his books," he revealed. Triston went on to praise his cousin by saying he studied to be the best and his determination helped him achieve his goal.

St Josephs College is as happy as the Adams, he has helped them defend their position as the Best School in BGCSE and to also produce a Golden Star for three successive years. Anthony's Class Teacher Ms. Mpho Sibasa did not struggle with words as she praised her wonder boy. "He is a big dreamer, very focused and self-driven," she said. She went on to reveal that he would sneak out from afternoon prep, just to attend Statistics extra lessons, since he did the subject only during his spare time. "He has achieved what he wanted to achieve," she emphasised. Mr. Kethamile Keolopa who was Anthony's Head of House is just as proud as everyone around the Golden Star and said he was impressed mostly by the young man's humility. "Yes Sir and Yes Mam' were the words he used most whenever teachers were talking to him," he shared. Keolopa was also amused by the fact that Anthony took statistics as his 11th subject but didn't do it full time and still managed to get an A* for it.

The school Deputy Head Mr. Herbert Setume who also could not hide his jubilant mood was happy to share the winning formula that they use to nurture the likes of Anthony to excellence. "We are very honoured to have produced a product that will be admired by both the local and international communities," he declared. He heaped praise on the school's internal processes and policies which include making sure that teachers make lesson preparations, deliver and give assessment, then give the students feedback promptly and also monitor students' academic performances on a monthly basis. The School Management also follow up teachers on implementing corrective measures, to mention but a few. The School Head Ms. Constance Male is happy for the new record of being the first school to produce a Golden Star for three years in a row, and said this shows that the students understands and appreciates the culture of the school; of academic excellence, good discipline and being closer to God. "We run the school with Aristotle's theme which emphasises that excellence is a habit," she highlighted. She also praised the team spirit that reigns between amongst the school staff and the Parents Teachers Association (PTA).



1. St. Joseph's College School Head Ms. Constance Male
2. Deputy School Head Mr. Herbert Setume
3. Head Of House Mr. Kethamile Keolopa

4. Class Teacher Ms. Mpho Sibasa
5. Anthony's Family with some of his accolades

Be passionate about education and work hard

For the first time since the introduction of the BEC Excellence Awards Letlhakane Senior Secondary School has produced a Top Ten Top Achiever and the young man they owe their bragging rights to is none other than Pego Letebele who hails from a small village of Mokoboxane in Boteti.

Not only are they toasting to his Top Ten finish, he is the overall second best in the whole county, cheers to the Ministerial Award! Pego did not pass his JCE with flying colours, actually his performance was average and he did not even feature in their Regional Awards. Pego was just another guy!!!! However, when he started his Form 4 in 2017 he was fortunate to come across different editions of the Stars Magazine; the BEC BGCSE Top Achievers Profiling Booklet. His lucky charm came in one Dimpho Gosenyang who just like Pego got a second class at JCE and sky rocketed to the first position when she sat for her BGCSE. Moreover, their teacher told them about the Excellence Awards and the Top Achievers Scholarship programme and he set himself a goal of getting 7 A* so that he could at least make it to the Top Ten, Oh well!! boy you are the runner up to the Golden Star. "From the moment I saw the magazines, I got inspired and started dreaming and I knew that it meant that I had to start digging my well," he shared. He went on to advise that success is not luck but is cultivated by hard work.

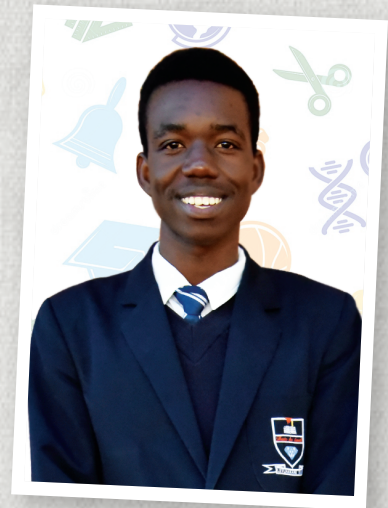
His aspirations to be in the Top Ten got a confidence booster as he finished as the Best Form 4 student, he knew he was on the right track and never looked back. "I knew I was going the right direction and started to have some self-belief," he told his junior peers at LSSS. He said to make sure he doesn't drop the ball he made visiting the library a habit, he spent almost every spare time reading. After eating lunch he would spend the remaining minutes in the library. Pego was a day scholar and travelled 60km to and from school everyday and this made him a 120km commuter on daily basis. He emphasised the point that the distance had was never discouraged him to go to school even during the weekends. The boy spent at least four hours in the school library on the weekend and he would leave school not earlier than 6pm during the weekdays. "Be passionate about education and work hard," Pego told the LSSS students.

Pego who was raised by his grandparents revealed that not only was he inspired by the BEC Stars Magazines but seeing his grandparents struggling to raise money for his school fees, bus fare and buying him revision

books made him more determined to earn their ticket to a better life. His grandfather Mr. Letebele Motlogelwa concurs with him that he will one day improve their background. "He is our light of hope, he must aim beyond the limit and remain focused," he said. The grandfather could not contain his smile when talking about their pride, reasonably so, he reckons their efforts were not in vain. At home Pego is a humble child who cooks and honours the tradition of making tea for the elders despite his busy schedule. His proud grandmother Mrs. Babolai Letebele also added that he does other chores that come with being a child, like milking the goats. His Uncle Mr. Selekia Letebele said he wished his nephew nothing but a brighter future, as a reward for his self-discipline and for being an obedient child who always helps at home. "He always does his chores with a smile," commended the uncle.

Pego's teachers have a similar version of him as that of his parents. The School Head Mr. Mathews Rakhudu, was quick to confess that he never knew the Top Achiever until he saw his brilliant results. "That confirms that he was a down to earth humble young man," he applauded. Rakhudu went on to praise Pego for making history not only in the school but also as a first student from Boteti to finish in the Top Ten. Mr. Pius Molapisi the Deputy School Head and also Head of Academics also expressed delight in their triumph and shared some of the strategies that helped the school produce a Top Achiever. He noted amongst many the mentorship programme, morning studies, boot camps and motivational talks as the pillars that drove them to excellence. Molapisi also described Pego as a humble and hardworking student. A team player who always extended a helping hand to other students, that is how his Head of House Ms. Florah Letebele will always remember their Ministerial Award winner. "He was very focused and always listened to advice," she said. Standing in for his transferred Class Teacher Mr. Ntshontsi, his English teacher Mr. Abel Kgomone said he was lost for words especially that Pego was struggling in languages and he challenged him to improve and when the results were released he had Aced both Setswana and English. "We are blessed to have had in our midst a true embodiment of hard work," he said.

Pego will pursue his A'Levels in Maruapula High School in the next two years and upon completion he stands a chance to go and study abroad. From a young age he wanted to be a Pilot but has since elevated his dream to Aircraft Engineering or Chemical Engineering as he loves Chemistry.



1. Letlhakane School Head Mr. Mathews Rakhudu
2. Deputy School Head Mr. Pius Molapisi
3. Head Of House Ms. Florah Letebele

4. Acting Class Teacher Mr. Abel Kgomone
5. Pego pictured with his grand parents



Repetition, Repetition and Repetition

The last spot of the best three in the Top Ten for the tenth edition of the BEC Excellence Awards has Tutume McConnell College's name on it, courtesy of Pusetso Gabete who walked away with the BEC Chairperson's Award. The Top Achiever did not do anything special to attain a spot for his school which made it to the BEC Annual Excellence Awards for the first time, his arsenal was repetition, repetition and repetition.

Pusetso deserves to walk head high and chest out chanting 'started from the bottom now I am here'!!, for he knows the feeling of being at the bottom and being on top. During his early years at school from Standard One to Standard Three he always finished last in his class, nine years later he is the third best student in the whole country. His Headmaster at Boteti Primary School Mr. Benjamin Rasesa spotted signs of intelligence in him and upon further inspection it was discovered that he was dyslexic. This means he had dyslexia a reading disability in which a person sees letters or words reversed or mixed up not necessarily that there is something wrong with their eyes. He then enrolled for occupational therapy and he passed his PSLE with grade A. But his strategy of learning through repetition of content is not mainly because he was following the Doctor's orders to manage his condition. "Repetition, repetition and more repetition is the best because the more you do something over and over again, the more it sticks to your mind," he said.

Pusetso could only manage an overall Grade B at JCE and he says by his standards this was a failure and he used the failure as motivation to redeem himself. The Maun native said he was also inspired by one of the seventh stars Sekondeko Sewelo of Shakawe. "He is my home boy and he also used his previous failure as motivation, so I thought I could be like him" he said. The ultimate dream is to make it to Oxford University which he has been fond of since he was a little boy. Pusetso's mother Ms. Dineo Gabete later revealed that her son has a beautiful obsession about making it through the gates of Oxford University. She said he even printed the University's logo and pasted it on his bedroom wall as a daily reminder of his dream. "I want to be a billionaire so at Oxford I can amass the knowledge and much needed network", he said. Pusetso advises aspiring Top Achievers to utilise their teachers as they know what to expect in examinations and refer to past examination papers as the questions are

always the same. Ms. Gabete says it is every parent's dream to have their child recognised for their hard work. The excited mother shared what characterised their journey to excellence. She said her son has always shown commitment to education even when results were not so positive, he was always the first at school and the last to leave. "At times I stopped him from going to school on Sundays" she confessed. She went on to talk about his dyslexia, and emphasised the importance of identifying children's special needs conditions early to allow good time to seek professional help and to utilise special considerations they are accorded by both the Ministry of Basic Education (MoBe) and the Botswana Examinations Council (BEC). "The Medical Specialist who helped us recommended that Pusetso should be given a break in between examinations and get a 30 minutes extension to finish his work," she highlighted.

Pusetso's triumph is seen as an inspiration to other students especially at his former school, this is according to his Class Teacher Mr. Kealeboga Mashaba who went on to attribute his student's good grades to his time observance and determination. "He always came to school earlier than everyone even the boarders and he used to leave later than everyone despite being a day scholar" he applauded. His Head of House and also a mentor Mr. Benjamin Sebina pushed him to excellence. Sebina said Pusetso showed a continuous improvement, so he encouraged the top achiever to keep working hard to become their best student which ultimately happened. Pusetso emerged victorious and was rewarded with his first ever academic prize during his last year of basic education. "He was a very humble student who from a distance doesn't come across as brilliant," he alleged. The Head Master Mr. Watson Basoli is head over heels about their Excellence Award Recipient and ascribes the school's giant leap from being previously ranked number 21 to 9th position to the commitment of the class of 2018. "This has marketed the school, now parents want their children to come here," he acknowledged. Basoli went on to say they were not surprised by Pusetso's performance as he had been showing continuous improvement from day one at their school.

The Oxford aspirant would like to study medicine and later to become an Orthopaedic Surgeon, so that he can help many Africans who have bone problems.



1. McConnel College School Head Mr. Watson Basoli
2. Head Of House Mr. Benjamin Sebina

4. Class Teacher Mr. Kealeboga Mashaba
5. Pusetso's proud Mother

Self Set Up

Tlameo Molokwe of St Joseph's College just wanted to pass her BGCSE and did not think much about being a BEC Excellence Award recipient. Even when she wrote down her wish list of how she would like her BGCSE results to be, she did not realise she had written an A* across each subject. "I didn't realise I was setting myself up to be a top achiever," she said.

Inspired by her former Junior Secondary School colleague Refilwe Kebabireng who also went on to become a BEC Excellence Award recipient walking away with the Chairperson's award for finishing as the overall 2nd runner up in 2016, Tlameo set the bar high for herself. "Passing my BGCSE was also a way of redeeming myself for failing to get Merit at JCE," she shared. Asked to share her strategies Tlameo said a student should never be idle but take advantage of every free time no matter how little it seems as together it will add up to something. She also advised that no man is an island and encouraged team work. "Monitoring your performance is also important so always note and compare your marks," she highlighted. This she said will help students see if they are improving or regressing and come up with corrective measures if need be.

Tlameo's Class Teacher Ms. Angelinah Mpofo echoes her student's sentiments that she believed so much in team work. "Much as she was a reserved person she was always willing to help her colleagues and share her knowledge," Mpofo attested. The Class Teacher also described her as a hardworking student who was always willing to go an extra mile with any activity she was given. The School Deputy Headmaster Mr. Herbert Setume reiterated his confidence on team work, he highlighted the culture of their school as the driving force that helps them to always achieve exceptional results. Mr. Setume could not fail to mention that at St. Josephs everyone honours their part of the deal. "Our students, teachers, the non-academic staff, and the PTA know that we strive for excellence, nothing less" he commended.

The Deputy School Head continued to say that above embracing the culture of excellence, everyone in the school is very disciplined and executes their responsibilities with due diligence. He went on to say this however, does not make them complacent

as they still do close supervision to make sure that teachers and students are all on top of their game. He took the chance to also express gratitude to Tlameo's efforts for helping the school retain its top spot, and said she will go on to make the school, the country and the continent proud.

The School Head Master Ms. Constance Male like her Deputy also credited the cultivation of excellence into their students as their strength to reach the top. "Our students understand and appreciate the culture of academic excellence, discipline and having a relationship with God," she said. Male applauded Tlameo for being true to her pledge to get 48 points which has not only helped her achieve a BEC BGCSE Top Ten Spot but also helped the school to excel in its academic performance.

When your child has done wonders it is difficult to find a perfect way to celebrate and show them just how much you appreciate their effort, these are words of Tlameo's father Mr. Makgotla Molokwe. Tlameo's mother, Mrs. Neo Molokwe just as excited and proud said that when the results were released she was so anxious she had to ask a friend to retrieve them for her. She revealed that she couldn't believe her eyes to the extent that she had to ask a colleague to confirm if the many A* she was seeing were not a dream. "Upon my colleague's confirmation I couldn't help it but cried." Like any other parent she showed off her little girl's brilliant work to her other colleagues who congratulated her profusely. Mr. Molokwe had words of advice to share with other parents who wish to see their children excel academically. He said parents must make sure their children choose the right friends, give them time to study and remind them to make time to socialise with their peers. His wife conquered with him by saying parents should not give children too much house chores as they come from school tired and still need to study at home.

Tlameo's parents still provide guidance to her. Her mother advised her to remain humble and focused. "The government has given you a golden opportunity, cherish it," she advised. Her father assured confidence in her and said she could be anything she wanted to become.

Tlameo would love to be a Cardiologist as she likes helping other people.



1. St. Joseph's College Head Ms. Constance Male
2. Deputy School Head Mr. Herbert Setume

3. Class Teacher Ms. Angelinah Mpofo
4. Tlameo's Family with some of her awards



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GOLDEN STAR
GOLDEN STAR

Anthony Howard Adam



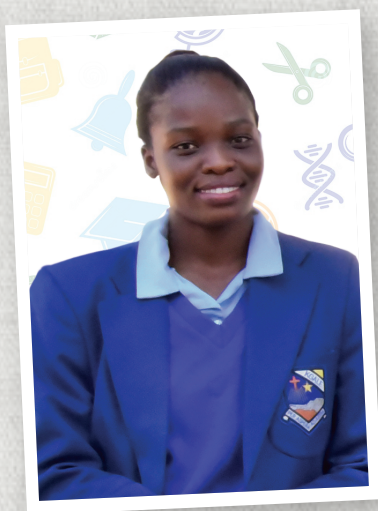
Announcing the award recipient

St. Joseph's College

PRESIDENTIAL
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It's Not Easy



Kutlo Moseki set her eyes on a Top Ten Finish when she sat for her BGCSE and refused to take her foot off the paddle no matter how difficult achieving her goal seemed to be.

The former St. Josephs College student confessed that her Secondary School journey was a very difficult one but she made a promise to herself that she will succeed no matter what it takes. "I told myself that I will not succumb, but I will conquer," she said. According to her Class Teacher Mr. Kagisano Sarefo, though her journey was not an easy one, Kutlo always finished an academic term amongst the best three in the school for all her two years at St Josephs College. Sarefo highlighted discipline and dedication as qualities that made him become very confident that his student was destined to be a Top Achiever. "She always read ahead," he applauded. The teacher also shared a light moment and said he always told his students he also wants to be in the Stars Magazine and was counting on them to make it happen. Well congratulations Sir, your name and picture made it to the Stars Magazine!!!! Her Head of House Mrs. Bontekanye Galeitsiwe's perception of Kutlo is in sync with that of her Class Teacher. "She was hard working and always eager to learn," she said. Galeitsiwe went on to say she long identified Kutlo as a Top Achiever.

excellence, discipline and having a relationship with God," she said. Male applauded Kutlo for focusing on achieving her set target of getting nothing less than 48 points which has not only helped her earn a spot in the Top Ten but also helped the school to make it to the top.

Kutlo's down to earth personality is not only praised by her teachers, she is a humble child even at home. Her mother Mrs. Keatlaretse Moseki says her daughter just like her name Kutlo can be translated to Obedience, is a very obedient child who never causes trouble. "She is very responsible, sometimes she gives us advice and she also gives guidance to her young siblings," she said. Mrs. Moseki commended her daughter for being focused on her goals, she did not mince her words when she talked about her belief and faith that her daughter would continue to excel. She went on to advise her to be mindful of her dreams and maintain her humility. Her father Mr. Lebiditswe Moseki is no different to his wife when he talks about his daughter: He said her daughter has an amazing, focused and a self-driven individual. "We draw inspiration from her self-motivation," he remarked. Mr Moseki further said his daughter is a big dreamer who always want do better than she previously did.

About her strategy to excellence, Kutlo said reading notes over and over eventually becomes boring, so she summarised her notes and watched youtube videos to make studying a little bearable. She also gave some thumbs up to having a study group, which she said doesn't only help with exchanging ideas but can be a much needed support system when one needs a morale booster. Kutlo also talks highly about the importance of a good diet, and drinking lots of water to keep the body active. Besides her study group mates Kutlo also had the support of his uncle Kagiso who is an A Levels student at Maru A Pula, who she says was always happy to help her with her homework. One of the 2016 Top Ten Stars Bosa Mokgethe also got a special mention for being Kutlo's inspiration, as he was always willing to help her and encouraged her to persevere. The two went to the same junior secondary school, where their friendship dates back to.

When Kutlo was just eight years old she fell in love with building structures but was not aware this could actually be a profession until she learnt about Civil Engineering when she was doing standard 7 and it has since been her passion to pursue it.



The Deputy School Head Mr. Herbert Setume who was clearly happy about the St. Josephs Class of 2018 performance could not stop praising the culture of team work that the school embraces. He said teachers, students, non-academic staff and the PTA are all out to attain the best results as they set their own goals to achieve. The St. Josephs college community know that we do not settle for anything less of excellence," he commended. He went on to say absenteeism without good cause is prohibited amongst all the school's stakeholders.

Setume emphasised that as a school they acknowledge Kutlo's performance because she is one of those who made the school proud and to retain top spot. He said Kutlo should go on to make the school, the country and the continent proud. The School Head Master Ms Constance Male like her Deputy also applauded their students and attributed their success to cultivation of excellence into the students which strongly influence their high performance. "Our students understand and appreciate the culture of academic



1. St. Joseph's College Head Ms. Constance Male
2. Deputy School Head Mr. Herbet Setume
3. Head Of House Mrs. Bontekanye Galeitsiwe

4. Class Teacher Mr. Kagisano Sarefo
5. Kutlo and family proudly displaying some of her certificates accumulated over years.

Push Through the Pain

According to Aone Mogorosi studying for good results is hard, it is not by any standard easy, so hard sometimes the body revolts against it but one must endure the hardship to make it. "It is going to be hard and difficult but push through the pain," he shared.

The Thamaga born young man says he has always wanted to achieve something in his academic life so there couldn't be a better way to write his name in the books of history than finishing in the BGCSE Top Ten. The Top Achiever did not struggle with finding his words during the interview and kept on emphasising on hard work; a stern believer of the old phrase, 'there is no sweet without sweat'. He speaks with so much conviction as he goes on to share that a student without a vision is a dead student. "A student must make sacrifices, there is no gain without pain," he emphasised.

Aone went on to express gratitude to the Government of Botswana not only for investing so much in education but also for supporting initiatives like BEC Annual Excellence Awards, which he reckons help take great minds like him out there so that other students can be inspired, like he was inspired by the 2016 Golden Star Kago Motsoma who he speaks greatly of. "Kago is everything, his persona touched my heart, he went from average to Golden Star, that is inspirational," he praised. Another class of 2016 Star Yohan Jeong who he described as a down to earth person, during their Junior Secondary School days, he said Yohan who was his senior and friend back then, has also added a few gallons into Aone's fountain of success. The two always shared a room when they went around the world for Olympiad competitions, and it was during this international assignments that he learnt later that hard work pays. "Yohan barely slept, he always encouraged me to work hard" he revealed.

His achievement has made the Mogorosi and Seabo families proud and his father Mr. Tumisang Mogorosi believes that indeed his son worked hard for his badges. "He has always been excelling at school, especially in Sciences and Mathematics, it is not by fluke" said the proud father. Aone's mother Mrs. Magdeline Mogorosi also labelled her son as a hard worker and an obedient child who confesses and apologises when he has set his foot the wrong way. His older brother Felious Mogorosi also talks with so much pride and confidence about his young sibling. He says his brother needs little to no motivation as he has always displayed outstanding commitment to

his studies.

Aone has helped his former school Naledi Senior Secondary School to retain their long standing record of producing at least one student in the Top Ten. To help his school defend their record, his Class Teacher Mrs. Sheilah Moleta reckons it was because he was very strategic in knowing that the earlier he started preparing the better. "He started his quest early and demonstrated that hard work pays" she said. She went on to praise his parents for raising him into a well-disciplined young man. Aone's Head of House, Mrs. Senwelo Loeto Molelo said it was a well-deserved award for the Top Achiever who proved to be a very dedicated student during his tenure at Naledi Senior Secondary School. "He was a very disciplined and highly motivated student," she said. Aone was so focused on making it into the Top Ten that he is said to have one day sneaked out of school midway a prize giving ceremony only to receive his prizes in absentia as he went to the BEC library to get some inspiration from the Top Achievers magazines.

Mr. Benson Dekop, the School Deputy Headmaster congratulated their man of the moment and credited their consistent performance to the law and order that reigns in the school. "The school is anchored on discipline and thrives on that," he highlighted. Above that he said the school has incentive programmes like the Performance Recognition Afternoon where they award those who did well in monthly tests, he said they do this as a way of keeping their students motivated. For his part, the School Head Mr. Othusitse said being always on the Top Ten is a motivation to keep on producing gems that the country will ultimately benefit from. The Deputy School Head commended the young man for displaying what he labelled as an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. Othusitse went on to share their winning recipe by revealing that the school identifies potential Top Achievers and make them realise their potential and live up to it. He attested that other than that and just assuming that the students will be self-driven would be suicidal. Othusitse also said parents played a crucial part as important stakeholders. Students who get 40 points and above in their monthly tests are given the opportunity to have lunch with the Headmaster as another way of motivating them.

Aone's wish is to go to Cambridge University or Oxford University to study either Medicine or Engineering. He is currently doing his Education Hub sponsored A Levels at Maru A Pula School.



1. Naledi Senior School Head Mr. Othusitse Othusitse
2. Deputy School Head Mr. Benson Dekop
3. Head Of House Mrs. Senwelo Loeto-Molelo

4. Aone's Class Teacher Mrs. Sheilah Moleta
5. Aone pictured with his family and his accolades

The Hard Way Or No Way



Former St. Joseph's College student Prince Ntsima who also made it into the 2018 Top Ten Achievers list, believes life offers no freebies, with this in mind he worked hard to secure his spot amongst the country's best students.

Prince's perception about life not being easy holds water; coming from a young man who is confronted with the harsh realities of life almost every day. He however, has embraced all the hard punches and reckons there was never any promise of life being milk and honey, hence everyone must make their own destiny through hard work. "Life was not meant to be enjoyed all the time, life dictates how we should live it, not the other way round," he warned his junior peers at St Joseph's College. The Top Achiever grew up in one of Gaborone's oldest townships Gaborone West where he still stays, with his mother and other members of the extended family. His mother Ms. Onkemetse Ntsima is a vendor, and sells amongst other things homemade bread (Mapakiwa). Prince understands the pain that his mother has to endure as she bends her back not only to put food on the table but to also make sure his school fees are paid, he has school uniform and taxi fare to and from school and he meets her halfway. "Every day before going to school he made the dough for me to make bread," said the proud mother. This meant that Prince had to wake up at least 3am every morning so that he had enough time to help his mother and read before going to school.

A very humble child at home Prince is praised by his grandmother Mrs. Seipatonyana Ntsima for his humility and respect he extends to everyone regardless of their age. "I told him he is going to pass because he is God fearing and respects his parents," said the granny with a smile that emphasised her pride about her grandson. His grandfather Mr. Monageng Ntsima also attributed Prince's personality to his amazing performance. To him, Prince is a typical student who only had them invited to the school for his good grades and has never had them summoned over for ill-discipline. Prince's elder sister Mrs. Kelebogile Lekobamotse is happy his little brother's hard work was not in vain. "I felt he was overworking and often advised

him to rest but he would refuse," she said. Kelebogile also helped his brother with his homework. Prince's humility and hard work is fruits of his mother's guidance and a constant reminder that there is a good future in education. "I always used his age mates to give him an example of how harsh life can be to those who rebel against their parents and don't care about education," she revealed. Prince advised students that would like to emulate him to bear in mind that excelling comes with a lot of sacrifices. "Some do not like studying but as students the only option is to study hard, listen to teachers and pass" he said. He went on to emphasise that life is not tailor made for each one of us. "Our dreams determine our daily thoughts, an aspiring thief, thinks like a thief and an aspiring Top Achiever thinks like one," he cautioned.

His Class Teacher Ms. Angelinah Mpofu confirmed that indeed her student's achievement was fuelled by his strong belief in hard work. "He did not believe in being told he has potential to pass but rather he believed he must work hard to pass," she said. St Joseph's College Deputy Headmaster Mr. Herbert Setume expressed delight at Prince's contribution in making the school an evergreen performer that produces a product that is admired even by the international community. He said to make sure that students who work hard like Prince pass, all stakeholders from the none teaching staff to the PTA work together as a team so that students do not fall short of what they deserve. "Students who come with good JCE grades should not drop in performance," he said. Setume went on to say both teachers and students are closely monitored to make sure they both honour their part of the bargain. The School Head Ms. Constance Male like her Deputy also attributed the cultivation of excellence into the students as their driving force to the top. "Our students understand and appreciate the culture of academic excellence, discipline and having a relationship with God," she said. Male commended Prince for being an epitome of hard work, an attribute which she reckons earned him a place in the Top Ten. Prince is fond of Mathematics and theories in Engineering, so he would like to pursue a career in Engineering though he is yet to decide in which field.



1. St. Joseph's College Head Ms. Constance Male
2. Deputy School Head Mr. Herbet Setume

3. Class Teacher Ms. Angelinah Mpofu
4. Prince with his extended family members.

Pull Yourself Together

Motivation comes in many forms and from different sources, for some their drive to excel is fuelled by wanting to emulate those that have made it before them, some rely on their mentors, some it just comes from within but Tshephang Serameng has her mother to thank for her victory in the 2018 BGCSE.

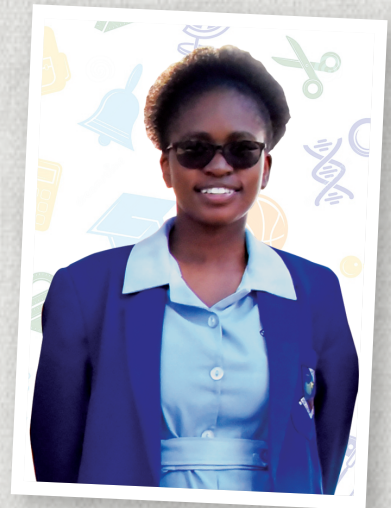
The former St. Joseph's College student recalls with joy the tough journey she endured in pursuit of her top achiever's badges. As she shares about what was her cheer up dose especially on the days she didn't have the motivation to do some school work. It all took a short sentence "Young lady pull yourself together" she quoted her mother Mrs. Mercy Serameng. This always did the trick whenever her mother woke her up in the early hours of the morning to read but would complain that she still needed to more sleep. "She always asked me to wake her up in the morning so that she can study, and sometimes out of pity I would let her sleep as I felt she needed to rest a bit," Mercy declared. She went on to share that every time she failed to wake her up, she would get in trouble as Tshephang would demand to know why she did not wake her up. It is perhaps the reason why the two ladies cried and embraced each other with hugs when they received the results. It has been a long tough journey that needed one to be encouraged by the other to pull herself together.

Beyond motivation this demonstrates the power of parental involvement and team work. Mr. Mojuta Serameng, Tshephang's father reckons it was the journey that they all embarked on as a family, he said their contribution went beyond just waking her up but they also monitored her performance and always attended school activities whenever they were requested to do so. "Unity is a contributing factor," he highlighted. He went on to commend his wife who he said she inspected Tshephang's books on a daily and they would analyse her work and identify areas of improvement. Tshephang who is a big fan of music always studied with music playing on the background which her mother thought could be destructive but it has since proved to be working wonders for the Top Achiever. Tshephang's cousin Ofentse Kelebogile like Tshephang's father believes that parental involvement played a very crucial role in her academic success, never mind the fact that she is the most disciplined child in the family and was very focused in her studies.

It is not only her mother who motivated her to pull herself together but she had some people she drew inspiration from. Her friend Kago Marumo who finished in the Top Ten at JCE made her believe that she too can, she said she just thought if a person close to her can do it then it was something possible to be done. Her Teacher at St Joseph's College Mr. Modise always told her that she was going to be one of the Top Achievers and that served as a morale booster for her to work hard. Tshephang also drew some inspiration from the previous Golden Star winners Kago Motsoma and Lefika Matlho who came to St Joseph's College as their former school to give motivational speeches, this drove her and she immediately believed she could emulate them.

At school Tshephang always displayed a very good team spirit as she wanted her colleagues to also do well, this is according to her Class Teacher Ms. Kelebogile Thokwane. Her Head of House (HoH) Mrs. Mavis Morolong concurs with her junior that Tshephang was a team player. "She always prayed for her classmates and in some instances led class discussions," she said. Morolong said because of her spirit of compassion she would often ask her to teach other students and she never turned her request down. The school Deputy Head Mr. Herbert Setume who also could not hide his jubilant mood was happy to share the winning formula that they use to nurture excellence. "We are very honoured to have produced a product that will be admired by both the local and international communities," he said. He praised his school's internal process and policies. He indicated that the St. Joseph's teachers do their work diligently and they are always ready to confront anything that they suspect would disturb teaching and learning at their school without wasting anytime. He emphasised that rules and regulations of their school are adhered to by all stakeholders. The School Head Ms. Constance Male is happy for the new record of being the first school to produce Six (6) out of the Top Ten (10) Achievers in one year. She said this shows that the students understands and appreciates the culture of the school, the academic excellence, good discipline and being closer to God. "We run the school with Aristotle's theme which emphasises that excellence is a habit," she highlighted. She also praised the team spirit that reigns between amongst the school staff and the Parents Teachers Association (PTA).

Tshephang aspires to study Bio Medical Engineering at an Ivy League University upon completing her Education Hub sponsored A Levels at Maruapula School.



1. St. Joseph's College Head Ms. Constance Male
2. Deputy School Head Mr. Herbet Setume
3. Head Of House Mrs. Mavis Morolong

4. Class Teacher Ms. Kelebogile Thokwane
5. Tshephang has amassed countless awards over the years.

Aim Not To Fail



Representing Mater Spei College is Abdul Alick. His motto is quite simple and straight to the point 'Aim not fail rather aim to pass.'

The young man whose parents are Malawians was born in Botswana and even sat for Setswana examinations throughout his school life. Abdul had quite a mouthful to share with his former school students. He started off his speech by apologising to the students and the teachers for falling short of their expectations. But his admittance of guilt did not bar him from hitting below the belt as he tried to inspire his former junior peers to glory. "If I was to ask a few of you what they have achieved today, they will say 'o raya jang?' (What do you mean)," he told his attentive audience. This he went on to explain it shows that many students do not know the purpose of them being in school, they think they are there simply because children are supposed to spend the day at school. Abdul told the students that studying is their own responsibility more than it is the responsibility of the teachers who are just there to provide guidance. He revealed that he too at one point lost the desire to go to school but he knew it was the only way to make milk and honey. "Don't let go, don't quit," he said. He went on to say being alive should always be their biggest motivation.

He continued his loaded motivational speech by telling the students that they should have a mentality of self-belief because if they believe that they can make it then they are half way towards success. It is fair to conclude that though he feels he could have done a lot better, Abdul was true to his motto and aimed not to fail. Before sitting for his final examinations Abdul had already been admitted at least three Universities in United States of America; Albany College of Health, Pace University and guess who...yep Harvard University and he chose the latter where he will study Neurology or graduate as a Specialised Physician. His Harvard entry came with a part scholarship of USD19,000.00 of the total USD56,000.00 which means he is short of USD37,000.00 and has only up to September 2020 to source to source the deficit. Going to Harvard would be a dream come true for Abdul.

Abul's father Mr. Alick Afia Asidi said Harvard University was all his son made noise about since childhood. Though he is his family's pride, Mr. Asidi says his son needed to be put on a short tight leash as he grew up, the proud father said as a parent he refused to take any nonsense from him and the young man has since learnt to be an obedient and responsible child. "Children do not know anything about the future, they need to follow their parents' guidance," he said. Had he not been a no nonsense parent Abdul would probably have got all of them in trouble. When he was still a small child doing Form 1, his school wanted to dispose some unserviceable computers and Abdul promised the school that he could fix them. Well he defied the odds and revealed the computer guru in him, the computers are probably still up and running but he left his father with a huge bill as he used his debit card to order spares from Japan.

Mr. Asidi said the boy was lucky to get away with it as he had asked for his permission but obviously did not disclose that the cost was steep. Today his father stands tall with pride and describe his son as a lovely child, he gets emotional as he reminisces and struggle to find words to narrate his happiness and only manages to say, "Hey, this boy!" as he points at Abdul who sat just adjacent to him and they both smile.

His mother Mrs. Sophia Alick was also lost for words to describe her happy moment courtesy of her first born child. The soft spoken Sophia could not not help the situation as emotions squashed her voice. She however, managed to garner some strength and say she is proud of her son and prays to God to continue protecting him before turning to her husband to rescue the mission. Her son has truly made her proud, this is perhaps their first big moment hence emotions getting the best of her. In rescuing his emotional wife Abdul's father went on to say it was worth commending Batswana, especially the Government for helping nurture his son to glory and for coming up with initiatives like BEC Annual Excellence Awards and labelled them a big recognition ever.

Mrs. Thato Phillimon who Mater Spei entrusted with Abdul's custody for the two years he spent with them as his Class Teacher, revealed another shocker about their wonder boy she said "this boy was only 16 years old when he sat for his BGCSE." She used words like exemplary, very focused, playful and special to describe him. Mrs. Zibisani Smarts who was Abdul's Head of House said he was an intelligent student who never performed below the school's Top Achievers target. "He was very good in Maths and Science, his project scooped position one Nationally," she said. Mind you this is the same Form 1 kid who brought a few computers back to life, so what could a Maths and Science project be to him four years later!!! Wait a minute, if he was only sixteen (16) when he wrote his BGCSE (Form 5 Examinations) it means he was only twelve (12) years old when he fixed the school computers, what a genius and a generous person the boy was at only Form 1.

The Deputy School Head Ms. Bowelo Kesianye is head over heels about their only Top Ten finisher's achievement and is optimistic he will be a benchmark to the Class of 2019 who can emulate him and help the school improve its percentage pass going forward. The Mater Spei College School Head Mr. Jabulani Munyere said his school has explored new strategies to redeem their disappointing performance and expressed confidence in attaining a far much improved performance in their forthcoming 2019 BGCSE results. About Abdul, he said, "He lived up to the instilled culture of excellence and self-belief."

Abdul said he was grateful for the love and patience his parents extended to him. "My parents stopped caring for themselves and spent their money on me, I must work hard to repay them although I will never be able to repay them to the last cent," he said. He also sent some gratitude the community he lives within.



1. Mater's Spei College Head Mr. Jabulani Munyere
2. Deputy School Head Ms. Bowelo Kesianye
3. Head Of House Mrs. Zibisani Smarts

4. Class Teacher Mrs. Thato Phillimon
5. Abdul collected a number of prizes and awards over his academic years.

Not All Kittens Open Their Eyes On the Same Day

Professor Jonathan Jansen in his foreword in the book *Win!* by Jeremy Maggs wrote; an old lady once encouraged me by saying "Not all kittens open their eyes on the same day." This word of encouragement is in more ways than one well suited to lead One Ranthatsa's story about her quest for excellence.

The Mochudi born completes the half dozen that St. Joseph's College boosts on the 2018 BGCSE Top Ten. One starts her story by revealing that she failed her last Add Maths test prior to the final examinations dismally and she feared for the worst, Add Maths has never been any easy to her. She makes a big sigh of relief before she continues to say her friends talked her out of her misery by reminding her that she has come a long way to quit. "Sometimes failing doesn't mean you are not smart, keep pushing," she said to the applause of her former school students.

It is not only her perseverance against Add Maths which she passed with Grade B that proves that indeed not all kittens open their eyes on the same day. One's mother Ms. Keletso Ranthatsa is jubilant about her daughter's triumph as it has earned her a Top Achievers Scholarship to Maru A Pula School. "We stayed next to Maru A Pula School and she has always admired it," she noted. Finally being able to go to her desired school is a dream come true though it comes on the 13th year of her basic education, although for a rather short stay of only two years, it is a big deal which is toastworthy. Actually the accomplishment is so big that it still gives Ms. Ranthatsa insomnia, she just cannot believe it is finally happening. One is not making her mother proud with her brains for the first time, when she was in Primary school she went to India for a Maths and Science Olympiad and she came back crowned the Best Student. "This is so fulfilling and an encouragement to her young siblings," the proud mother declared.

One's mother who works in Senete allowed her to stay in Gaborone with her aunt Ms. Lebogang Kwapa and uncle Mr. Leatile Chilindi as she wanted to continue to school in Gaborone. She credited them being an inspiration of her dreams. Aunt Lebogang constantly reminded One that she will not be happy with her if she did not qualify for the Top Achievers Scholarship, as a strategy to make her give BGCSE her best shot. The Aunt described her niece as a unique child who has no interest in the latest trends that would otherwise fascinate a person of her age. She went on to sing praises about her, saying

she is an orderly child who needs not to be reminded what to do, from house chores to her academics. It is One's discipline, focus and inner drive that made her uncle Leatile believe she will get her desired grades. "I knew it was going to be, her routine was only school work and house chores," he said. Leatile said all they had to do as her custodians was to make sure her needs were well taken care of, hence creating a platform to extract excellence out of her.

To attain her good grades, One devised a few strategies to ferry her to the promised land and she was happy to share a few. The Top Achiever said she made acronyms out of formulas and created songs out of the acronyms and these helped her to easily remember the many theories and formulas she needed. She also said she made triangles out of formulas. One declared that she used to struggle with languages at Junior Secondary School and decided that for her to improve she needed to come up with new learning tricks to help herself improve in languages. One said, when she sat for her Setswana examination she would translate the questions to English language then answered them and translate the answers into Setswana which has proven to work wonders for her. She said learning could be boring so she used highlighters to make her notes look colourful and interesting. Mr. Luke Pine who was One's Class Teacher at St. Joseph's College said he was not surprised by his student's victory. He said above intelligence One was a responsible student and team player. The school Deputy Headmaster, Mr. Herbert Setume commended their Top Achiever for being a good Ambassador and showcasing the culture of excellence that they pride themselves with. "We are proud to see students like her embrace the excellence we preach and representing us well," he said. Setume said it was important to nurture excellence in students as they are the future of the country and the world over. "They are future leaders as some of us are already in afternoons of our lives," he emphasised. For her part the School Head Ms. Sethunya Male also congratulated the Top Achiever for her feat. "We are very happy as a school for this continuous confirmation that our strategies are working," she said. Male said she was confident One will continue to display their culture of excellence and discipline.

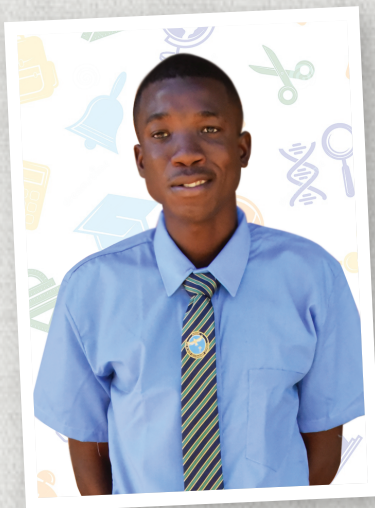
One is currently living her dream as a student at Maru A Pula School pursuing her A Levels and upon completion she would like go abroad and study either Medical Engineering for her love for technology or Chemical Engineering.

1. St. Joseph's College Head Ms. Constance Male
2. Deputy School Head Mr. Herbet Setume

3. Class Teacher Mr. Luke Pine
4. One has won both local and international awards



It's All In The Mind



What started as just another random toothache marked the beginning of a loss of hearing for Maun Born, Kealeboga Karesaza and eventually corrupted his speech too. Losing hearing at the age of 11 as a Standard 5 student would most probably have affected another person psychologically, but not Kealeboga he embraced the drastic change and remained positive.

Despite his mental strength Kealeboga was forced to drop out from Xhabara Primary School and took a break for a whole year. After a year idle at home with hope of getting better news from the Doctor on his next of many medical check-ups which only reaffirmed the worst, his parents enrolled him at Boyei Primary School as it has Special Education classes. He resuracted what seemed like a bleak future, by first learning sign language as his new means of communication, a transition that went very well as he soon caught up with the main curriculum. It was clear enough to notice that his family has not healed completely because of his ordeal, they still get very emotional as they turn back the hands of time from the time, when they think that the young man lost his hearing and continued to persevere until he finished his BGCSE as the best student with hearing impairment. Though she manages to keep her tears at bay, pain and astonishment are written all over his mother Ms. Bonkumile Moipinedi's face. Ms. Moipinedi cannot believe her third born child of eight has achieved something so big and the 'what if' question is inevitable. As she struggles to recall the time line of events, Kealeboga's immediate young sister Gaoitsape Moipinedi who could not hold back her tears chipped in and confirmed that her brother was doing Standard 5 when he lost his sense of hearing. She continues by emphasising that prior to this Kealeboga had a promising future as a brilliant student "Kealeboga ke ngwana yo o bothaleee...." (Kealeboga is a very clever child), Gaoitsape said as she finally manages to hold back her unending tears, there is no doubt the statement was comforting.

But with Kealeboga's impressive academic record maybe they will finally make peace with the situation. He is one of the few BEC Excellence Award winners who have made a clean sweep by winning at both the PSLE, JCE and now BGCSE, what a record!!! Despite him not being a newbie to being invited to Gaborone to get his accolades at a ceremony where the Stars of the day rub shoulders with different dignitaries including His Excellency the President of the Republic, it is the first time that his family hosted BEC officers and shared their story. This they say just shows how much their son has honoured them. His father Mr. Sazambo

Bathalefeng said they were very grateful for the recognition. "This is quite fulfilling," said the proud father. He went on to say his son surely has a bright future. Mr. Bathalefeng mentioned humility and hard work as the first word that perfectly describe his son. Pabalelo Mooketsi is Kealeboga's cousin and the two spends a lot of time together unwinding if he is not reading and showing off his marks to his cousin. Pabalelo says his cousin is talkative and easily gets bored and frustrated if he (Pabalelo) has no much to chat about. He would then resort to taking a walk or go to the stadium to train as he pursues his dream of being a professional runner one day. Kealeboga later shares another heart-breaking incident; he said when he was doing Form 4 he was hospitalised for the whole month of October but he smiles as he continues to say he is proud of himself for having managed to pass albeit all the challenges he went through. "Education is for all, for as long as you value it, it's all in the mind," he said. He went on to say a student must be disciplined, self-driven, focused and should manage their time well. "I had to stand up for myself because I know the value of learning," he concluded.

According to his Class Teacher Mr. Godwin Papiso, above being a Top Achiever, the former Maun Senior Secondary School student will be dearly missed for his utmost respect and humility. "My first impression of him was that he is a very respectable student," he said. He went on to say his conduct showed that he was well raised to be a respectable and responsible young man. Kealeboga's Head of House Ms. Keagile Monyei praised the Top Achiever for his attitude towards school work. She said Kealeboga is one of the few who never missed the morning study. "He also displayed a very positive sense of responsibility as a Prefect," she commended.

Maun SSS head of Department-Special Needs Ms. Neo Mafunye also heaped praises on the young man's conduct saying he was humble and easy going. "He came from JC as a bright student who was eager to learn and always wanted to excel," she said. Ms. Selebatso Modisaemang the School Head expressed delight at Kealeboga's results. She said he always set the standard high for himself therefore, he deserved to pass. "Kealeboga and I used to have one to one conversations, he always promised to pass his BGSE," she shared. Modisaemang went on to describe Kealeboga as a very neat born leader who adds to the country's responsible citizens. Kealeboga was also a runner representing his school in different competitions.

Kealeboga cautions his peers of social ills like crime, alcohol and drug abuse and aspires to be a Social Worker to help inspire children.



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1. Maun Senior School Head Ms. Selebatso Modiseimang
2. Head of House Ms. Keagile Monyei
3. Head Of Department - Special Needs Education Ms. Neo Mafunye

4. Class Teacher Mr. Godwin Papiso
5. Kealeboga is one of the few BEC Excellence Award winners who have made a clean sweep by winning at both the PSLE, JCE and now BGCSE.

Faith Conquers Everything

Leading the Special Education Class of 2018 of the Visually Impaired is Itumeleng Mojoo of Molefi Senior Secondary School where she is commended for her inspirational performance.

Molefi Senior School has both mainstream and Special Education students. Although Itumeleng is graded in comparison to her Special Education students only, at her former school that is almost insignificant as she has given students in the mainstream class a run for their money. According to her Class Teacher Mr. Dintwe Segobye, Itumeleng was a very focused and a dedicated team player and never regarded herself as a disabled person. "It is an honour to have led an amazing student like her," he said. Senior Teacher I-Special Education Mrs. Masego Thamage's version about their former student is not in contrast with that of her Class Teacher. She said Itumeleng interacted well with other students including those in the mainstream education. "She is a very hard working and jolly young lady," she said. Mrs. Mariam Chimidza, who was Itumeleng's Head of House said she was impressed by her positive attitude and high self-esteem. "She always encouraged her peers to study hard, her results are an inspiration," applauded Chimidza. Molefi Deputy School Head Mrs. Gabankitse Magwape described their star as a very confident person and well-disciplined student. "She has always been one of the top performers in the school," she said. Her family also gave a positive account of their child, and their perception of her is dominated by the words funny and hard working. This is someone who makes jokes out of just about anything even her visual impairment. Her aunt Ms. Magdeline Majoo says she has always been confident of her niece because of her previous good record and self-belief. "She is a true model that confirms that disability is not inability," said the proud aunt. Her other aunt Ms. Mishingo Majoo said the way her niece has embraced living without sight was just amazing. She said she often forgets the disparity between them and said she wished she could be a

teacher for the Visually Impaired to inspire those that are like her. Mishingo went on to say she enjoyed spending time with her niece as there is never a dull moment. The aunt continued to shower Itumeleng with praises for her hardwork, "She washes, irons and folds clothes for her young siblings and also sweeps the yard," aunt Mishingo said. Itumeleng's triumph is nothing but amazing according to her other aunt Ms. Chiseka Rapekenene, "This is just amazing, she has made our family proud," she said.

Itumeleng started her school when she was only three and a half years old so that she could have enough time to learn reading and writing braille. But the girl was so brilliant, at only five years she started standard one. Her mother Ms. Piningie Majoo said it has been an easy journey especially because of the support her family has always extended to her. Although she started school at a relatively younger age, Itumeleng proved to be an intelligent student as she always won prizes at school. The mother said it is not surprising that she got a BEC Excellence Award for being the Best Special Education-Visual Impairment student, an achievement she repeated at JCE after being tops of her PSLE cohort and now she has completed the treble with the BGCSE accolade. "She is a very smart child, she has taught me the basics of braille," her mother praised.

The award winner said she owed her success to her former braille teacher Ms. Sebolao and her former colleague Ms. Nothando Filas who always expressed some faith in her. When she was in Standard Five she was the best student in Agriculture and thought she would make a good Vet. But she eventually fell in love with the Law fraternity, particularly Criminal Law as she aspires to be a Defence Attorney because she wants to advocate for the justice of those who are often wrongfully accused.

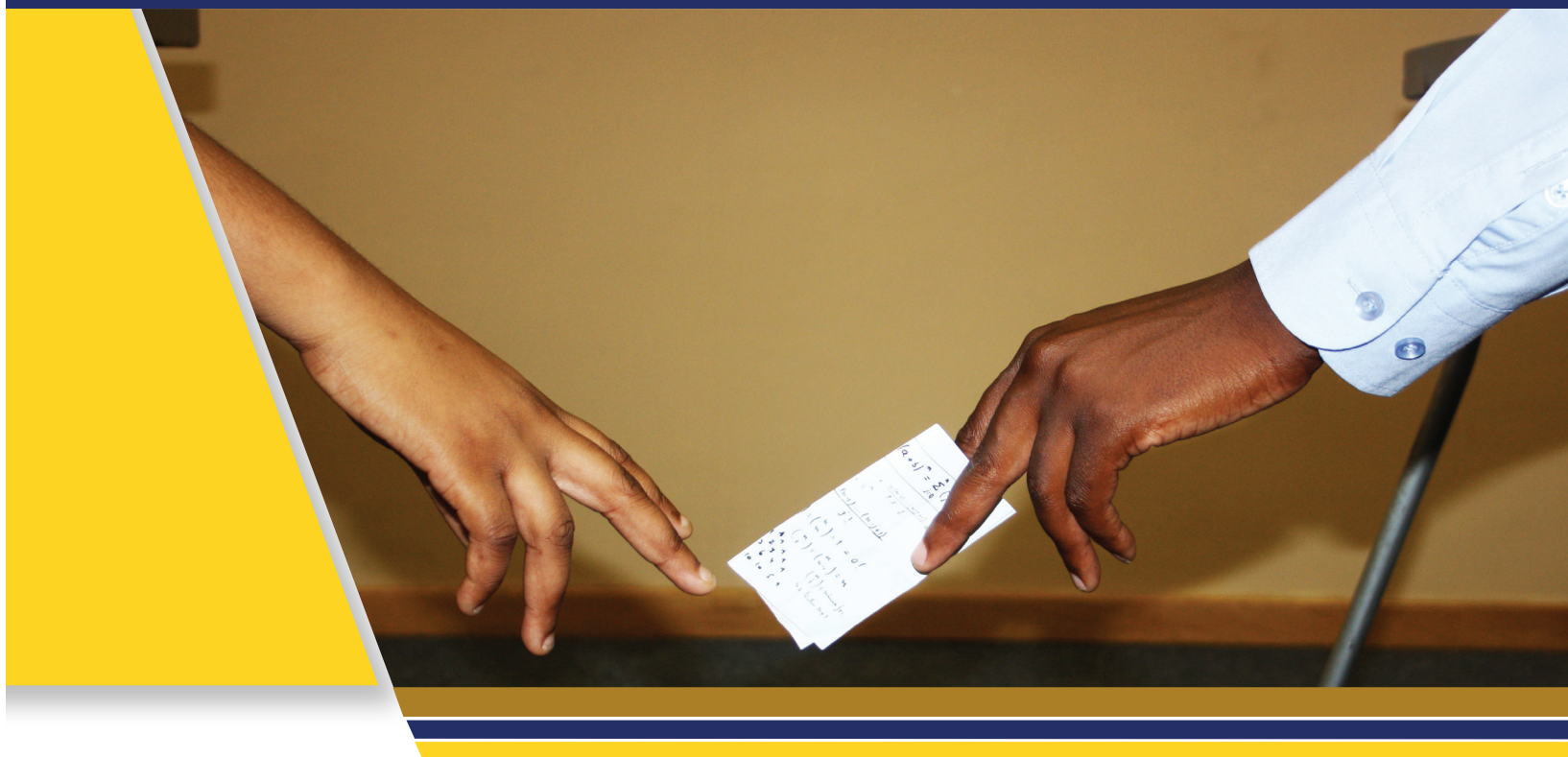
Wow!!!!!! She made it to the BEC Annual Excellence Awards three times, a brilliant record indeed!!!



1. Molefi's Deputy School Head Mrs. Gabankitse Magwape
2. Head Of Department - Special Needs Education Mrs. Masego Thamage
3. Head Of House Mrs. Mariam Chimidza

4. Class Teacher Mr. Dintwe Segobye
5. Itumeleng has managed to appear in the Top Achievers list for all the 3 levels of PSLE, JCE and BGCSE.

Stop Examinations Malpractice



Malpractice involves a deliberate act of wrongdoing, contrary to official examination rules, and is designed to place a candidate at an unfair advantage or disadvantage.

DETECTION OF MALPRACTICE

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