



Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016

Dear Parents,

Our main news this week includes an article written by the Year 5 students about their recent field trip to Muhaka Camp in South Coast, as well as information about our assemblies and sports events.

### Year 5 Field Trip

The following is an excerpt from reflections that a group of our students wrote about their recent field trip. The full article is included as an attachment with this newsletter, which I thoroughly recommend reading...

#### Day 1

*As we reached camp Muhaka, we were so excited. We were welcomed with warm hands. After the brief orientation we were made aware of what Camps International have been up to and working on. We ate a delicious lunch and we were totally filled, after which we got ready for a forest walk. We were walking through a sacred forest, so our guide had to say a prayer in his language before we entered. We saw different trees such as the 'mnguo nguo' tree; it was used long time ago as their cloth maker. It was a fun and new experience for us all. When we got back we played games like football, card games, pool and board games. At the end of the day we had a campfire where we told scary stories and roasted marshmallows. Then, lights out!*



## Assemblies

### Student Led Assembly – 27<sup>th</sup> May

Unlike our usual assemblies, the assembly on 27th of May was led by a Year 4 student who took it upon herself to plan and lead the event. She liaised with teachers and students to plan and organize this. There was a variety of items presented; a short skit on peace and unity, a showcasing of the arts, a recorder duet and a dance! In her reflection, at the end of the assembly, our student mentioned how important it is to work as a team and that the assembly would not have been possible without the cooperation she received from her friends, other students and the teachers. The assembly was a perfect example of displaying the *attitude of enthusiasm*, by the participants and audience! Well done to all the participants.



Student-Led Assembly

### Year 3 Assembly – 3<sup>rd</sup> June

Today the Year 3 students presented the assembly, which focused on their current unit *How rituals and traditions help us express our beliefs*. The students performed a skit, *The Guest of Honour*, showcasing their talents in performing arts, as well as informing their audience that though people are different with diverse cultures, values, and goals, we need to respect each other in our diversity.



Year 3 Assembly – Skit 'The Guest of Honour'

Dance

## Students and Decision Making

On the topic of student action and taking initiatives, our Junior School Class Representatives have been highly involved in discussions around which playground structures we should order to replace the old jungle gym, which had rusted and was taken down. They have conducted surveys in their classes and have had a succession of meetings with the school leadership and our procurement department. From these actions, they have learnt that they have to work within budgets and the impacts that a budget and other factors have on final decisions. We hope to place an order soon so that we may have the new structure as soon as possible in the next academic year.



Focus meeting to discuss the new playground structure

## Sports News (From Mr Ndungu)

### Football

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May, the under 9's mixed team, the under 11 girls' and the under 11 boys' teams went to Braeburn, to participate in the Braeburn 2016 Soccer Festival. Nine schools took part in the tournament; Braeburn Mombasa, Oshwal Academy, Shree Swaminarayan, Light Academy, MSB, Mombasa Academy, Coast Academy, Kivukoni and AKAM. The teams were accompanied by Mr. Ndung'u, Ms. Fridah and Mr. Kepha.

The under 9 's played three matches; they drew 1 - 1 versus Mombasa Academy, won 1 - 0 versus Shree Swaminarayan and lost 2 - 1 to Jaffery Academy. They did not qualify for the semis from their pool and were ranked 5<sup>th</sup> in their age group.

The under 11 girls played three matches in their pool. They won all the matches; 2 - 0 against Braeburn, 2 - 1 versus Coast Academy and 3 - 0 versus Light Academy. They qualified for the semi-finals where they played Jaffery Academy, whom they drew 1 - 1. The match went into penalties and AKAM won 5 - 4. In the finals, they played Kivukoni and won 4-0!

The under 11 boys played Shree Swaminarayan and won 6 - 0. In the second match they played Mombasa Academy and won 5 - 0 and in the last group match they drew 1 - 1 with Light Academy. In the semi-finals they played Braeburn and drew 0 - 0 in the regulation time and went on to penalties. AKAM won 5 - 4. In the finals we played Light Academy and **won 1 - 0!**



The under 11 girls and the under 11 boys emerged the winners in the respective age groups. Well done to all the three teams for their teamwork, sportsmanship and representing the school.



U9 mixed football team and the U11 boys team



U11 match - AKAM versus Braeburn

### Diploma Graduation

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 68 of our IB Diploma students graduated from the Academy in an auspicious ceremony held at the Commons. Her Excellency, the First Lady of Kenya, Margaret Kenyatta, was the Guest of Honour at the event. Her Excellency commended the students on graduating from the Academy and many of them being offered admission to some of world's most reputable universities, to name a few; Yale, John Hopkins, New York University, McGill and University of Toronto. Several students have received scholarships and financial assistance for their university education, amounting to a total of over US\$4.5 million. Two of our Junior School students had the honour of presenting Her Excellency with a bouquet of flowers on arrival at the Academy. We wish the graduates the very best in their further studies and futures.



Presenting flowers to H.E the First Lady, Margaret Kenyatta

### Global Centre for Pluralism

Attached with this newsletter is communication from the Curriculum Development Manager, Ms. Alex Holland, on a research study for the Global Centre for Pluralism being undertaken at the Academy next week. The purpose of the study is to analyse the opportunities currently taken at the Aga Khan Academies to develop students' understanding of the Pluralism Strand. Some students will be interviewed. Should you wish that your child not take part in any of the interviews, please follow the instructions outlined in the attached document.

## Student Reports for Semester 2

Your child's progress report is due to be sent to you on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> June. You will receive an email from Managebac, our reporting platform, informing you that you can login to access the document. Should you have not received anything by the end of the day on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June, please contact us at [rukiya.cochu@agakhanacademies.org](mailto:rukiya.cochu@agakhanacademies.org)

### Key dates coming up...

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Student-Led Conferences (appointments as scheduled)
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	U11 Netball Vs Oshwal Academy (H)
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 Graduation - Assembly (8.30am – 9.30am)
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Semester 2 Reports to parents
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	School Closes (12 noon)
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	Orientation for new students
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> August	School opens for the 2016-17 academic year

A newsletter with important information related to the next academic year will be emailed out to you in mid-July.

Wishing you all an enjoyable week-end.

Kind regards,

*Isla Gordon*

**Principal, Junior School**

