

Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017

Dear Parents,

We've had a lot to celebrate recently in the Junior School with our students highly engaged in a range of sports and activities, these taking place both inside and outside school. Since the last newsletter we have had our Inter-House Swim Gala, our SRC initiative Book Character Day and the annual Book Fair, as well as other events over the long weekend. Students participated in a chess competition, skating race, a Book Month event at the Aga Khan Nursery and a Kenya Swimming Federation gala in Nairobi.

Life has also been busy with the academic part of school life. Year Levels are approaching the end of their 4<sup>th</sup> Unit of Inquiry. Our Year 5 students are now half-way through their PYP Exhibition, still finding out information from different sources related to their inquiry questions. They will shortly be preparing to present their ideas for taking action, to a panel of teachers.

The following provides further details about our recent activities as well as some key dates to take note of for your diaries.

### **Year 5 Assembly – 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Today, the Year 5A students presented a colourful, entertaining and very informative assembly. Through an excellent dramatisation of *The Little Mermaid*, a much-loved children's story, they reiterated the traits of the Learner Profile as well as showcased the importance of communication and collaboration. Well done to all the students; their confidence and creativity shone through!

As always, it is also a pleasure to see parents at our weekly assemblies.



**Year 5A Assembly**



Year 5A Assembly

### Hockey Matches *(From Kennedy Kariuki)*

The last round of matches for the Mombasa International Schools league hockey season took place on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March. We hosted Light Academy for the boys and girls under 11 teams. The girls team recorded a 2 - 0 victory whilst the boys match ended 5 - 0 in our favour. Well done to the AKA Mombasa U11 teams for their victories, and for representing the school.



U11 Hockey Teams

### Inter-House Swimming Gala *(From Anthony Ndungu)*

On Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March our annual Inter-House Swimming Gala took place. The event was a great success with a joyful atmosphere which was also highly charged with friendly competition from the students and teachers. The students cheered on their house mates as they swam and battled for points for their respective houses. In the girls' category, Red house (Falcons) emerged 1<sup>st</sup> after collecting 184 points. Yellow, Green and Blue Houses followed, respectively. In the boys' category, Yellow house (Eagles) shone after amassing 173 points. Overall, Yellow House emerged 1<sup>st</sup> with 324 points, Red came 2<sup>nd</sup> with 305 points, Blue was 3<sup>rd</sup> with 298 and Green 4<sup>th</sup> with 286 points. Green House was declared the best disciplined house by the judges, on criteria that included orderliness, cheering, being ready for races on time and cleanliness in the respective sitting areas. It was indeed, a very enjoyable gala. Thank you parents, for taking time out of your busy schedules to come and support the event. Below is the table of results and some photos of the day.

|              | Yellow House<br>1 <sup>st</sup> | Red House<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> | Blue<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> | Green<br>4 <sup>th</sup> |
|--------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Girls        | 151                             | 184                          | 141                     | 148                      |
| Boys         | 173                             | 121                          | 157                     | 138                      |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>324</b>                      | <b>305</b>                   | <b>298</b>              | <b>286</b>               |







**CASA Junior Championships : 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> March**

This weekend the Academy will host the CASA Sprints and Relays Junior Championships, 9 Years and under. We wish all the participants the very best.

**Book Fair and Book Character Day (From Kristine Leabres)**

Do you know that there is evidence to suggest that reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school, rather than their social or economic background? At AKA Mombasa, we celebrated World Book Day with a Book Fair on 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2017 and an SRC-initiated Book Character Day on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The event celebrates reading and offered students and teachers a chance to dress up as their favourite characters and share their favourite stories. Below are a few snapshots of the day.







The Book Fair was a great success; the school libraries received books of their choice worth ten percent of the sales. Some parents and visitors recommended that we include books in two languages e.g. Swahili and English, French and English and mother-tongue. We thank you for your support.

### **Chess Champions (from Kristine Leabres)**

The Kenya National Youth and Cadets Chess Championship (Coast Region Qualifiers) took place on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 2017, at Wild Waters, Mombasa. Thirty-eight players from various schools participated. Three students from the AKA Mombasa Junior School scored points that qualified them to participate in the Nationals Qualification on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in Nairobi, and will prepare them for the Mombasa Open International Chess Championship on 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017, again at Wild Waters. Well done and congratulations to everyone who participated!



**Chess Championship event at Wild Waters**



## Skating Championships



A group of AKA Mombasa students took part in the annual Inter-School Skating competition at Light Academy, on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February.

Part of the school team with Coach Andrew

## Book Month event at The Aga Khan Nursery – 24<sup>th</sup> February

For Book Month at the Aga Khan Nursery School, five young students from the Junior School spent part of a day over the half-term break at the school, reading stories to the children. They were each allocated a class to read a story of their choice, which they followed up with an activity. Well done to our young stewards, who received *Thank You* cards and were awarded certificates for their community service.



At the Aga Khan Nursery School



## Updates on the PYP Exhibition (*From the Year 5 Team*)

This week the students focused on their 'finding out' part of the Exhibition inquiry cycle. They researched from primary and secondary sources, formulated questions, collected information, conducted surveys and held interviews. At the bi-weekly meetings the mentors help the students identify any misconceptions, misinformation and overgeneralizations in their findings, guiding them to more focused enquiry, information and data.

The next stage of the process is the *Proposal for Action* - a central part of the Exhibition in which students identify appropriate action on their project, and reflect on measures they can take to make an impact on their chosen area of interest.

Next week the students will be working on a written *Proposal for Action* which they will present to a panel of teachers, on what action they plan to take on their project. They will then work on the feedback given by the panel.



### Exhibition Checkpoint 1

We had an opportunity to meet with parents at our first check point on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February. We highly appreciate the turnout and thank all the parents who came to share their child's journey in the Exhibition, so far. We also appreciate your views, thoughts and comments, and encourage you to continue to be part of the journey.



Students sharing their exhibition journey with parents

### **Important Exhibition Dates:**

- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March: Second checkpoint (10.30am – 12.00pm)
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April: The PYP Exhibition – Official Opening (5.00pm – 7.30pm)  
*[for Year 5 parents and invitees]*
- Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April: The PYP Exhibition (8.15am – 12.00pm)  
*[for other members of the AKA Mombasa community]*

### **Dates for your Diary**

#### **March**

Saturday 11 – Sunday 12<sup>th</sup>: CASA Junior Sprints and Relays Swimming Championships – 9 Years & under

Friday 24<sup>th</sup>: Junior School Open Day  
SRC Talent show – 7.45am

#### **April**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>: The PYP Exhibition Opening (5.00pm – 7.30pm)

Friday 7<sup>th</sup>: The PYP Exhibition (8.15am – 12.00pm)

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup>: School Break

Monday 24<sup>th</sup>: School resumes

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>: CASA Junior Swimming Championships – Under 11 years

We look forward to welcoming you to school for many of the upcoming events. Wishing you a wonderful weekend.

With kind regards,

*Isla Gordon*  
Principal, Junior School

