Friday, 1st September 2017

Dear Parents,

These first two weeks of the academic year in the Junior School have flown by! At the start of the year we welcomed the students back to school, along with 38 Year 1 and 12 new students from Year 2 to Year 5.

It was pleasing to see so many parents at the Parent Information Evening on Thursday 24th August, and I hope you found it beneficial in terms of informing you about the overview of your child’s academic programme for the year and the daily and weekly class routines. For those of you who were not able to attend, you may contact your child’s class teacher for any information. Year Level curriculum documents and the class timetable were emailed out to parents, on Wednesday this week.

**Student Assessments**
The beginning of a new school year is an ideal time to assess students and get to know their strengths and areas they need improvement. Other than the internal class assessments we do, we also subscribe to InCAS for external assessments, from Durham University’s Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) [http://www.cem.org/about-us](http://www.cem.org/about-us). The InCAS primary assessment is a computer-adaptive assessment designed to help teachers identify each individual’s profile, which helps them in planning teaching and learning. Each module takes approximately 20 minutes to complete and includes: Reading, Spelling, Math and Mental Arithmetic. For more information you can go to the link [http://www.cem.org/incas](http://www.cem.org/incas). The CEM data is only for the school’s internal use.

We will be conducting CEM tests for the Junior School from 4th September to 19th September 2017. Every class will do the assessment for 2 consecutive days in one or two lessons each day.

**The Enrichment Programme**
The Enrichment Programme begins on Monday 4th September for Years 2 to 5 students. Further information has been attached with this newsletter. We also kindly request that students are picked up from school promptly, at the end of the day.
Kenya Music Festival – 2017
The Academy participated in the 91st Edition of the Kenya Music Festival in June and July 2017, whose theme year was, Enhancing National Unity, Cohesion and Integration through the Kenya Music Festival. Twenty-Five students from Year 1 to Diploma 1 represented the Academy in the finals at Masinde Muliro University in Kakamega, winning 17 top three placings, comprising of eight 1st, two 2nd and seven 3rd positions. In the operatic category the Academy was placed in 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th positions, a class we have won now for the past 9 years! We congratulate each and every student for their sterling achievements; their talents shone through, and we thank them for giving up part of the holiday to travel all the way across the country participate in the event and represent the Academy.

Part of the KMF Junior School group celebrating

PYP Parent Workshops
PYP Coffee Mornings and Evenings are organized to help you understand our Junior School Programme better. The morning session is repeated in an evening session so that parents can attend at their convenience. We will begin the first session with an Introduction to the Primary Years Programme, which is targeted to parents new to the International Baccalaureate (IB). We also invite parents who have been at the school to attend, if the wish to have a refresher of the PYP.

The upcoming coffee morning will take place on Thursday 14th September at 8.00am to 9.30am and the repeat evening session will be held on Thursday 21st September at 5.00pm to 6.30pm.
Please inform the Junior School Secretary Ms. Rebecca Davis of your attendance, for logistics planning, on rebecca.davis@agakhanacademies.org. Note these dates have been revised from our earlier communication, sent in the July newsletter.

Staff profiles are attached for you to get to know our Junior School team, and to introduce our new staff members.

We will send you the Junior School Calendar for 2017 – 2018, with our next newsletter.
**Dates for your Diary**

**September 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Venue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Enrichment Programme begins</td>
<td>2.45pm – 3.45pm</td>
<td>Various</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday -</td>
<td>4th</td>
<td>CEM Assessments</td>
<td></td>
<td>ICT lab/Learning Commons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>19th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>14th</td>
<td>PYP Workshop</td>
<td>8.00am – 9.30am</td>
<td>Learning Commons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>21st</td>
<td>PYP Workshop</td>
<td>5.00pm – 6.30pm</td>
<td>Learning Commons</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>28th</td>
<td>Year 1 Parents – ‘Refreshments with Ray’</td>
<td>8.00am – 9.00am</td>
<td>Executive Boardroom at the (Commons – upstairs)</td>
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<td>Head of Academy - Mr Raymond Zinsli</td>
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We wish our families celebrating Eid today a joyous occasion, and to all a lovely and peaceful weekend.

Best regards,

Khona Bhattacharjee
Vice Principal/PYP Coordinator

Attachments:
1. Enrichment Programme information
2. Staff profiles