



6<sup>th</sup> June 2016

Dear Parents,

In the last six weeks, a lot has happened in Senior school. However, we were unable to share a newsletter in between due to the nature of preparation for the major events that have just happened that were focused on our candidates, DP2s and year 10s. Therefore I believe we are set to share an overview of what has been happening over this period of time.

As the candidates were sitting for their examinations, the rest of the year groups were able to sit for the May examinations. We have already released the results to you using ManageBac and you may have had an opportunity to discuss the performance with your child. We will soon award certificates to those who made into the honours list.

Recently, year 8 and 9 students were engaged in the process of subject selection in preparation for year 9 and 10 respectively in the next academic year. We appreciate the support given by the parents of these students in this process. Our hope is that they have selected subjects that match their interest and ability so as to be successful in deepening their knowledge and understanding of those subjects.

The school choir, the AKAM voices for change in conjunction with Mombasa County Education office and Kenya National Library, participated in a literacy day in a school they have identified as their community and service project. Being led by 2 DP1 students, they conducted various workshops on reading and other activities to promote reading among the children from the surrounding slum area in Changamwe called Bangladesh. They also donated books and other items. The head of Academy and the Senior School Principal attended the occasion.



# Diploma Programme

## DP2

The Graduation Ceremony for the DP2s (Class of 2016) took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2016, and 68 students received their certificates of completion from the Chief Guest and keynote speaker for the occasion, the First Lady of Kenya Her Excellency, Mrs. Margaret Kenyatta. It was a momentous and grand occasion.

It commenced with the Pinning Ceremony in the lawns of the school Guest House where graduation pins were fastened on each student by the Chief Guest, the Director of Academies, the Head of Academy, the Senior School Principal, and the teacher mentors. A toast was thereafter raised by the Head of Academy in honour of the Graduates.

This was followed by the main event, the Graduation Ceremony, in the Commons. The dignitaries took the stage first. Then the graduates and the marshals marched in with the traditional procession accompanied by the school orchestra's musical magic. There were inspiring speeches by Her Excellency First Lady Mrs. Margaret Kenyatta, The Director of Academies Mr. Salim Bhatia, the Head of Academy Mr. Bill O'Hearn, the Senior School Principal Mr. Francis Kariuki, and the Class Speaker (student) Ms. Racheal Ayugi.

These were interspersed with brilliant musical interludes from the School Choir, the Faculty Choir and the School Orchestra. The centrepiece of the event was of course the students receiving their certificates on stage, in full regalia.

The male and female Awards of Excellence were awarded to Raghuvver Vyas and Ruhi Manek respectively. The Ceremony was followed by a reception where parents, students, dignitaries and teachers mingled and celebrated together.



## DP1

The DP1s have had a busy and productive time. They had their year-end examinations, where they experienced the full gamut of the DP examinations rigor. A very necessary precursor to what awaits them in DP2. This was followed by the Extended Essay Days on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May – two days exclusively dedicated to their EE preparation. Understanding the nuances of research and analysis in specific dimensions was the key here. Then came their group 4 project, a required DP component

in the Sciences which culminated with group presentations on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June. The umbrella theme explored through the three sciences was the ‘Green Audit’ of the school.

We now await the academic results of the class of 2016, and the advent of a new DP cohort to fill the gap. The wheel comes full circle. And the proverbial show goes on.

## Middle Years Programme

The highlight for this period was first cohort of our MYP students to sit for the newly introduced e-assessments by the IB, the MYP Year10 graduates, class of 2016.



What began like a normal year culminated with a bang! A closing assembly on Friday June 3, 2016 it was that had all the hallmarks of a disciplined, collaborative and yet creative class of 2016. At the assembly they sang their hearts out, bidding bye to one another while punctuating it with long hugs that seemed to take forever. The excitement in the hall was in itself enough to let all and sundry know it was time to part company and for some; forever.

A day before this, on May 2, they formed teams in their respective streams to play basketball, football and finally bucket ball on their last day. At the end of first day of sports, coordinated by Mr. Anthony Ndung'u, legs were sore from the friction of the boots and rubber shoes giving way to blisters. The team spirit was too strong to allow such ‘small things’ to distract them. They shouted and cheered in excitement and by evening they were not only panting like pigs but also too tired to find their way home.

Were they forced to be in the moods? Perhaps! When the examinations ended on May 20, some of the students were not willing to go for the Camping Trip in Marungu, Tsavo on May 23. Several phone calls later to parents yielded a few results forcing the school to chip in financially. The weeklong experience and expeditions in Marungu however, left many of them asking for more camps like these. On coming back from the trip, Mr. Benson Wafula was waiting for them with DP TOK session while Mr. Shouquot Hussain took them through DP Extended Essay. Mr. Vlad Gogulescu capped that 30<sup>th</sup> day of May with DP Creativity, Activity and Service while Zohra Lakhani opened the following day with a session on leadership and internship opportunities within

Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) institutions. The students showcased their MYP experience by taking the rest of the school community through their Portfolio of Achievement, too. Their party, the PROM night is perhaps the most memorable experience that will remain etched in their minds for life is Not only was delicious food served courtesy of our dedicated kitchen staff, but they also danced their legs limb.

Do they really know where they are going professionally? We bet they do. On May 31, committed, dedicated and enthusiastic parents and friends of the Academy arrived at the campus in style with a mission to illuminate their career paths through a Career Talk Session. We had the lawyers Ms. Azmina Amarshi, Mr. Sanjeev Khagram and Mrs Mariam Nampeera Mbowa who came all the way from Kampala, Uganda. The psychologists Ms. Nuala Alibhai and Christine Karue kept students discussing on end. The surgical mind of Dr. Arif Baradia came into play and the students absorbed all he had to offer. Mr. Paraag Devani was available to help them navigate through finance and accounting while Ms. Wanjiru Macharia convinced them that it was easy to sell ice to an Eskimo through her marketing skills. While Dr. Aryn Lakhani took them through public health, Ms. Tracy Muraya was at hand to convince them that pharmacy was the place to be. Mr. Ferdinand Omondi temporarily withdrew his journalistic skills from the revered British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) and focused on fielding questions from the budding journalists in his audience. Ephraim John kept those who were techno-savvy on their toes with his ICT skills while John Humbu convinced them that entrepreneurship requires skilled innovators and risk takers. Mr. Ashraf Khan took the students through the paces of military training and logistics. Our own colleagues, Jackson Ligaga and Philip Agutu with his friend Enos were at hand for Theatre and Music careers respectively.

## **Student Life**

It has been an eventful year with the students showing excellence in all areas of their experiences at the Academy. Our joy as teachers, is when we see the students maximize their potential, demonstrate intellectual humility and maturity, exemplify the pluralistic ideals as well as being ethical in their endeavours. We want to thank you parents, for your support and your commitment in shaping these ideals in them.

### **House Activities**

The purpose of the house activities has been to enrich the student's experiences, by providing opportunities for them to showcase their talents. Ravens again demonstrated their prowess in the recent public speaking house competition by coming first. Our last house event on Friday on the 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016 will be sports competition. May the best house win!

### **Enrichment Activities**

At the start of the year, students signed up for several enrichment activities that were on offer. We hope their experiences in the activities were meaningful and that you will have opportunity to engage in meaningful conversation regarding those they participated in.

### **Community and Service /CAS**

During the year, we witnessed a surge in community and service activities and the involvement/partnership of day students. We hope to see more such partnership in the coming year. On the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016, "The Football for Hope" community and Service group have organized a Talent Show by the Street Children. We recognize the role Mordecai and Biko have played and mentoring others to take over the management of the "Football for Hope" project.

### **SRC New Team**

Recently, elections for the Student Representative Council took place and below is the new SRC Executive Team for 2016/2017

Female President - Arshi Ratansi

Male President - Brian Kimwatan

Academic Executive - Navaz Alani  
 Citizenship Executive - Saumya Gupta  
 Expression Executive - Arzoo Rajpar  
 Action Executive - Shaan Vora

We thank all the candidates who availed themselves and for running excellent campaigns and maintaining a healthy competitive spirit.

### Residential life

The experiences in the residences have been fulfilling and rewarding to the residential students. Students have been involved in bowling, water sports, games night, watching movies, Karaoke night, dance night and many others. Our last official residential event will be the residential awards night on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2016, where we recognize students for their contributions in the residences.

We appointed a new team of dorm captains and we trust that they execute their duties effectively by introducing new innovative ways of enriching residential programme. On the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2016, the team was in Best Western Hotel for a one day retreat to chart the events of next year.

There was mixed feeling seeing the Dp2 and year 10 residential students leave early after their exams. Our is to wish them well in the next phase of their academic lives. In honour of DP2's contribution the community, a residential dinner was organized as well the Prom Night for the entire DP2's students. The prom was held at the Voyager hotel.



### Sports

Our AKAM Racquets (Badminton, T/Tennis & Lawn Tennis) team successfully retained the overall title at the Oshwal Mombasa tournament yesterday. The team won 6 gold, 2 silver and 1 bronze. See below collated results. The 15 Girls and Boys made our whole community proud.

CATEGORY PARTICIPATION							
	Under 12		Under 15		Under 18		Total Student Participation
Discipline	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	
T/Tennis	N/A	N/A	1	1	N/A	N/A	2
Lawn Tennis	N/A	N/A	N/A	1	N/A	2	3
Badminton	1	1	4	2	1	1	10
							15

RESULTS							
Discipline	Under 12		Under 15		Under 18		
	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	
T/Tennis	N/A	N/A	Sara Alidina - <b>SILVER</b>	Kush Majithia - 4th	N/A	N/A	
Lawn Tennis	N/A	N/A	N/A	Amilio Merali - <b>GOLD</b>	N/A	Jeeva Preemkumar - <b>GOLD</b> ; Aliasger Jafferji - 4th	
Badminton	Mishal Lalani - <b>GOLD</b>	Ryan Maina - <b>GOLD</b>	Khushi Tyagi - <b>GOLD</b> ; Riya Haria - 4th; Aditi Dubey - 5th; Mahek Shah - 7th	Aheer Chatterjee - <b>SILVER</b> ; Abdulkhan Yusuf - 7th	Aalin Thayani - <b>GOLD</b>	Aminulloh Mamadziyoev - <b>BRONZE</b>	
MEDALS TABLE							
Category/Medal	GOLD		SILVER		BRONZE		TOTAL
T/Tennis			1				1
Lawn Tennis	2						2
Badminton	4		1		1		6
<b>TOTAL NO. OF MEDALS</b>							9

### Upcoming events

June 8 to 13, 2016	Visit by Global Centre for Pluralism
June 10, 2016	Inter-house Sports day
June 14, 2016	Semester 2 award & recognition ceremony
June 17, 2016	Last day of school & Annual award & recognition ceremony
June 17, 2016	Semester 2 reports released

Have a wonderful week!



Kind regards,  
Francis Kariuki  
Principal, Senior School