



15th June 2016

Dear Parents,

What an absolute pleasure it has been to have your children in the Junior School this past year! I have been constantly reminded of what an enthusiastic, confident and well informed group we have, not mentioning their other attributes and dispositions, generally showing care and concern for those and their environment around them. It is also a pleasure to be working with you as parents.

As we approach the end of the school year we bid farewell to four of our colleagues at the end of this week; Rukiya Cochu, Norah Olaly, Prisca Lillian Agola and Michael Muchilwa.

Rukiya has a long-standing history at AKAM and has served many roles. Back in 1995 she was actually working at the Aga Khan Junior Academy as a teacher. After following her husband to Paris in 2000, she then returned to work at the Academy where she held roles as a Class Teacher, a Language Coordinator, a PYP Coordinator and Vice-Principal. Her dedication to the teaching profession has benefitted so many of our students, and she will be certainly be missed by us all. Fortunately, we will still see Rukiya around Mombasa as she will be staying here and working on a personal family project and continuing some work with the International Baccalaureate Educators Network. Her girls, Iman and Sarah, will remain with us at the Academy.

Norah joined the Academy shortly after the start of the 2014-2015 academic year and helped in building up our learning support programme. Her knowledge about differentiation and supporting students with specific learning needs, has been invaluable.

Lillian joined the Academy in 2008 as a Teacher Assistant and has also served as a Kiswahili teacher. Her dedication to teaching at the school has been invaluable. One of her passions is music, which she has shared with many students over the years, in particular for their enrichment. Lillian will be taking up a teaching post outside the country, in Bangkok, Thailand.

Michael, a Teacher Preparation Programme intern, joined us in January 2015 as one of the highest achievers from his year at University where he graduated with a teaching degree in Physical Education. Again, his service to the Academy over the past 18 months has been most appreciated by the students and staff.

Fortunately we have received applications and interviewed highly qualified and experienced professionals to take on these roles next year. I look forward to sharing our new teachers' profiles with you in August.



Your child's class teacher and other single teachers will be posted on the board when they return to school in August. I will be announcing in the first newsletter, the complete staffing plan for 2016-2017.

We also bid farewell to our Year 5s and wish them the very best as they transition to the Middle Years Programme. They are a wonderful cohort and have been super role models to the rest of the students in the school. Please see, at the end of this newsletter, some of the photos from recent Year 5 events; the Graduation and the party.

Junior School Support

Some happy news this week; Ms. Eunice, who spends time with the students taking them to and from swimming lessons and helping in the girls changing rooms, had a baby girl this past Sunday. We wish Eunice and her baby the very best and look forward to welcoming her back in September.

Finally, you will be receiving a summer mailing sent out in mid-July with details for the next academic year. This week you should also receive your child's Academic Report from this last semester. Please inform Rukiya Cochu at rukiya.cochu@agakhanacademies.org by Friday 17th June, should you not receive notification from *Managebac* or if you have difficulties in retrieving your child's report.

School starts back on the following dates below. Please also note some other key dates in August and September 2016.

Monday, 15th August:	Orientation for new students and students joining Year 1- 8:30 – 10:00 am
Tuesday, 16th August:	Start of school for <u>all</u> students 7:40 am – 2:40 pm
Thursday, 25 th August:	Parent Information Evening (essential for all parents to attend) 5.00pm – 6.30pm
Thursday 1 st September:	Workshop - Introduction to PYP workshop for Parents (refresher and for parents new to the IB PYP programme) – 8.00am – 9.30am
Thursday 8 th September:	Workshop - Introduction to PYP workshop for Parents (refresher and for parents new to the IB PYP programme) – 5.00pm – 6.30am
Thursday 22 nd September:	Workshop - Digital Citizenship workshop for Parents (suitable for all parents in the Junior School) – 8.00am – 9.30am
Thursday 29 th September:	Workshop - Digital Citizenship workshop for Parents (suitable for all parents in the Junior School) – 5.00pm – 6.30am

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday and a safe onward journey to our families and students who will be leaving us at the end of this academic year.

Warm regards,

Isla Gordon
Principal, Junior School





PYP Graduation 2016



Year 5 Party – 3rd June 2016

