

25th April 2016

Dear Parents,

The three weeks after the April break have gone fast and within this period a lot has happened and we would like to share with you the achievements as well as information from various programmes.

First, we hosted the Academies Unit who came for the April review meeting and they had an opportunity to interact with both students and teachers and appreciated the sessions where students shared their learning experiences both in class and outside class. They had an opportunity to talk to DP1 students who ran workshops during the Peace Summit, year 5 students who are preparing for exhibition and visited DP2 Visual Art exhibition where the students presented their Art pieces to them.

Sports

We celebrated the great achievement of our open boys' basketball team, who represented the Coast region and emerged 4th place in their first time in Kenya Secondary School Sports Association national finals held at Friends School Kamusinga in Kimilili in Bungoma County.

Our team was the youngest one and the squad constituted of 10 players instead of twelve as the two other players had last minute issues. This competition gave us the opportunities to face schools with outstanding history such as Kisumu day, Kapenguria and Upperhill. Our team conceded the lowest points and scored the most points against the eventual champions, Upper Hill high school. The outcome of this success is allowing us to qualify for the EA Games which is yet to be confirmed by the end of next month. We are proud of their achievement as a team together with their coaches.



In addition, two of our boys, have been chosen for the Under 16 basketball championship in Djibouti; the event will take place during the summer break. We also need to highlight that one of these two players will attend a basketball camp in South-Africa. The camp named “without Borders” is an annual event which is 100% sponsored event and it is run by NBA coaches.

To showcase where we have reached in basketball, please note that five students have been selected for the Giants of Africa camp. Brookhouse School Nairobi will be hosted this camp run by Toronto Raptors, an NBA team. When we receive confirmation of the dates, we will communicate them to you.

Diploma Programme

DP2

The DP2s are at that point in their journey where all the rigor and growth of two extraordinary years come to a culmination. Their syllabi completed, internal assessments and other externally assessed uploaded, CAS portfolios completed. They now face the lull before the storm and intense revision cycles came to a conclusion on Friday, 22nd April. They finish school life on this day with the Celebration of Achievement where they displayed their CAS portfolios to their peers and teachers. Then there was a semi-formal farewell where a ceremonial cake was cut, and members of the faculty and students shared their deepest thoughts and feelings, and try to bring smooth closure to this defining stint. They are now in their study leave week counting days to the start of their final examination. Their teachers are available to support them during the week.

But before they get there, there were a few other milestones/events they happily traversed through. The professional pre-graduation photoshoot, where they all assembled in their resplendent best, took place in the afternoon of 20th April. It was a three and a half hour marathon where each individual student had his/her personal pictures taken in a myriad poses and postures, and then many different types of group photos – full cohort, mentor group, subject groups, and a whole lot of mad but great ones in twos, triads, quartets and larger groups. Everyone literally had a blast, including the mentors who dared to stand and pose alongside these stunning youngsters who looked like they had all just stepped of a cover of Vogue or Vanity Fair!

The DP2 Art exhibition preceded this event, and the exhibition was a study in deep visual meditation that seared the soul of all who viewed the works of art on display. A number of very topical and contextually relevant social issues were brought into sharp focus by our talented young artists – works that posed new questions to old statutes. Phenomenal depth and maturity in minds we presume as so young.

More great university placements and worthy scholarships continue to pour in as we speak. From Yale to NYU, from Berkeley to Johns Hopkins – the story continues to grow, and the legend continues to enlarge itself!

DP1

The DP1s have their eyes now firmly focused on emulating the academic success of their predecessors – and are sharpening the saw to meet the demands of the forthcoming May examinations.

Geography and ESS students are on a field work trip to Watamu as part of their internal assessment for ESS and preparation for internal assessment in Geography.

Middle Years Programme

The preparation for the inaugural on screen examination for the 2016 year 10 cohort are going on smoothly including revision programme for the students and technical preparation needed to

familiarize the student with how to navigate the different platforms required during the examinations. The year 10 parents have been updated on everything that has been going on including the post examination programme.

For year 6 to 9, there are also focused on preparing for the May examinations and course outlines have been shared with both the students and parents in order to help in revision. Again teachers are in hand to support the students in preparing for the examination. In addition, your encouragement as parents will also play a crucial role in giving confidence to the student that they have it takes to successfully go through this period.

Student Life

House events

Strong house events are essential for developing strong relationships, teamwork, organization, and leadership skills. We have seen our students continue to demonstrate these in the House competitions. In the recently held Music house competition, the Hawks House emerged the winners. Congratulations are in-order for them for this achievement.

Enrichment Activities

Term 3 activities have started and schedule is attached to the newsletter. Kindly inquire from your child which activities they have signed up for because by the end of the academic year, it is expected that each MYP student have participated in at least two activities for each of enrichment clusters i.e. service/citizenship, expression and action and have written reflections on each. For DP1, they have to fulfil their CAS requirement.

The service celebration held on Saturday 23rd April was a big success and we appreciate all the parents who came to see the various service projects our students have been engaging in throughout the year.

We appreciate the good response to the hepatitis A vaccine initiative and process is set to start later this week and it will continue to ensure that all those who wish to have the vaccine receive it.

We would like you to help us encourage your children to use school lockers in to keep their school bags which are carrying valuable items such as laptops instead of leaving the bags lying outside in public spaces where anyone open them and take away their valuables.

Upcoming events

April 25, 2016	DP2 study leaves start
April 29, 2016	Swahili day
May 2 to 20, 2016	DP2 final examination
May 6, 2016	Year 10 Swahili A on screen examination
May 9 to 20, 2016	Year 10 on screen examination
May 9 to 12, 2016	DP1 May examination
May 11 to 12, 2016	Year 6 to 9 May examinations

Have a wonderful week!



Kind regards,
Francis Kariuki
Principal, Senior School