



22nd September 2018

Dear Parents,

The last four weeks have been busy and a time for our students to settle well into the school programme for this academic year. Curriculum units are well underway with teachers in place except for the drama teacher for some of the MYP classes who is reporting on 1st October 2018. Subject selection for year 9 and DP1 has now stabilized and students have settled into the Enrichment programme. CEM tests have been concluded apart from a few students who were either not there during the tests or some parts of the tests are still pending. They will be given a chance to sit for the tests in course of next week. Parents sessions for all MYP classes have been done and it was a good opportunity to share information, gather feedback and to meet the teachers. We will send the video recordings of the meetings to respective parents in each year group so that parents of residential students have a chance to know what went on during the meetings.

We would like to share the profiles of the faculty working with your children. Please find them in one of the attached documents.

As indicated in the calendar, the Parent Teacher conferences will take place starting on Wednesday 3rd October at 2pm and will end on Friday 5th October 2018. Attached are letters for both MYP and DP programmes where you will indicate when your child or children can sign up slots with the teachers. Please remember we have separated the time for residential and day students. More details are in the letters.

We kindly request you to remind your children to adhere to the policies or values, rules and regulations stipulated in the student handbook that we have shared with them. They have signed an acknowledgement form stating that they have read the handbook and they will abide with it by meeting the expectations of the school on student behaviour. The school will act decisively on any student whose actions or behaviour goes against the values of the Academy especially the major school rules. As a school, we have the obligation to safeguard the health, safety and security of the Academy community.

We would like to clarify that the school policy does not allow the use the school facilities by non-residents on non-school days or after official school programme. This is based on health, safety and security considerations. The school is however exploring the idea of having a sports club arrangement where non-residents can pay to be members hence being able to access school facilities for exercises or recreational purposes.

We would like to share commendable achievements by our students:



On the 28th to 31st August 2018, the Young Farmers Club along with the Book Club participated in the Mombasa Agricultural Show that was held at the Agricultural Society of Kenya showground. The main theme of the show was to highlight the different ways that technology has positively influenced innovative agricultural methods as well as trading and marketing of goods around Mombasa. Through this, the Mombasa community was able to converge at the showground and present a variety of products that are a result



of agriculture. Members of the clubs exhibited their products at the Show where many projects were presented from different categories including science projects, a model farm, metal work, fine art, woodwork, local handicraft (like homemade cards, flower arrangements among others) and farm produce e.g. coconut, vegetables among others were exhibited. The students were able to achieve first and third positions in the various projects but they were the overall winners in the schools category.



A team of 6 AKA Mombasa students attended the International Association of Maritime Economists (IAME) the world's largest organization of scholars active in the field of shipping, ports and maritime logistics held in Mombasa and Africa for the first time.



The **challenge** was to work on innovation around stakeholders within a port environment. A limited amount of environmental and location information about all movable stakeholders like employees, on-site service suppliers, port movable assets (cranes, forklifts) and port goods in transit (containers, liquids, bulk goods...) will be monitored. The use of tags and networks to gather this information will be at low costs so it becomes economically viable to store all this information.

Our students through a limited scope worked on a project dubbed “Minimizing occupational accidents in the port of Mombasa by optimizing human movement”

The IT solution was to design one tag for employees, visitors, vehicle's, and containers that could detect; excessive heat beyond threshold to various location, identify lost visitors/employees, detect hazardous spilled fluids beyond a given set pH, reduce machine accidents by monitoring acceleration within set parameters and send signals to human beings committing or near hazardous zones at the same time signal send to disaster management department for an action.

This project won besides being the only team of students in a forum of IT gurus from KPA, KRA, Business developers locally and internationally. Please join us in congratulating the following students:

- Devesh Datta- DP2
- Kirunda Kuniya- DP2
- Gurjog Singh- DP2
- Sneha Bardai – DP 1
- Heena Kamani – DP 1
- Sigi Yitzak – Year 8



Student Life

The first 6 weeks have passed so fast. We are proud of the goals your children have put in place and strategies for achieving these goals. We are further impressed at how the new students have settled and adjusted to the new environment and the new curriculum. In the same light, it is important to note that it has taken a short time for our students to develop competencies that have enabled them develop a firm footing for their success for this academic year.

Mentors and Dorm Parents

Mentors and dorm parents are very key persons that you need to keep in touch at all times. A strong relationship and constant communication between them is vital for the development, monitoring and guidance of our children. Let us know if you have not been in communication with either of the above for one reason or the other.

Residences

The quality of the residential programme continues to become better on the account of admission of new students from different background, recruitment of caring dorm parents, and quality leadership of both dorm parents and dorm captains. The new members in the residences come with new ideas that enrich the residential programme. We recognize the new additions to the dorm parents team; Anusha, Aileen, Arria, Kainat, Sara, Nancy, Johnson and Iyad. Join me also in recognizing Marco Adriko who was elected as the dorm captain rep in the SRC.

The annual residential Talent Night is scheduled for the 22nd September 2018. This is one of the most prestigious competitive residential events and may be the best block win.

Student Leadership (SRC)

The elections for different SRC positions concluded in September. We congratulate all those who presented themselves for the different SRC positions. On the 28th to 30th September 2018, both the elected student leaders and the dorm captains will be retreating for training, team building and planning.

Other Notices

The sign-ups to the different enrichment activities concluded last week and we expect students to commit to the activities so as to learn.

The first house event, Quiz competition, will be held on Wednesday 26th September 2018.

Serving learning is now open to the day MYP students on Saturdays; however students must register with service learning team and commit fully to attend and meet all expectations of the activity. In addition, they should go home immediately the activity is over so as to allow the residential programme to continue. Meals are only for residential students.

Sports update

Please see attached.

Diploma Programme

DP1 students had a very productive and comprehensive Orientation into the Diploma Program, starting from the two days intensive in-school orientation where they got introduced to the multiple curriculum components by concerned experts with senior student leaders providing context and opportunities to bond, and culminating with the 2 night outdoor leadership camp at Mt Kasigau – where they learnt to trust one another and form deeper bonds by climbing a mountain and abseiling down a rock face, and sharing their stories around a campfire.



On the academic front, they have now settled into their final subject and level choices, and Friday 21st September was when windows to change or shift closed which was the end of six weeks period.

They are also in the process of finalizing the now iconic event - the DP1 play, where every student will be involved – either in performing on stage, or in areas like direction, music, set design, stage management, light and sound, make up and costumes, publicity and marketing among others..

DP2 students are now well and truly in performance enhancement mode with weekly tests and Internal Assessment draft submissions garnering all their time and priority. They also completed writing the second reflection of their Extended Essay, and have now received the feedback for the first draft of their EEs. Hence they will now be working on the feedback to polish up their essays. The Final TOK (Theory of Knowledge) prescribed essay titles have just been released by the IB, and the teachers will now be unpacking the titles with all students, after which each student will choose one out of the 6 titles to respond to in his/her TOK essay – and then get down to writing the first draft.

But it's not as if they are only immersed in academia. They also hosted an evening bonding barbeque for the DP1 students, where they assigned DP2 buddies officially for each DP1 student – to help them better manage the DP journey, and have experienced and informed peer support.

Below is an article shared by our school psychologist:

Patience is not simply the ability to wait - it's how we behave while we're waiting." Joyce Meyer

On a recent family trip, I got an opportunity to be on the other side of the table – learning something invaluable from my children. I am not saying that I've never learnt from them, but this was something precious.

We had gone to Switzerland for a ski holiday – all of us first timers to the sport. On the first day, we all headed to the beginner's slope – the idea was to literally learn how to walk. I imagined this is what Ironman would feel like, except he clearly had super powers! Learning how to walk up the gliding lift, and then sliding down on your feet felt absolutely doable.

It was day 3, and I was still on the same slope. What felt like an impossible climb for me, became my children's playground? They were doing the serious stuff by day 3, including skiing backwards. They were skiing on the mountains, using the chairlifts, and having fun! Here is where I learnt from kids. They would come and check on me, help me up from the snow, and encourage me to keep on going. Never once in those 3 days did they show any sign of frustration or sarcasm. This really made me think, and I took some time to reflect here. What was happening, and how did I feel?

My children made me feel **safe, Capable** and **hopeful**. These were powerful emotions to keep me going, to continue feel **respected** and **included**. I had one *'aha'* moment here... *"do we do enough of that when our children are learning something new? Do we give them enough space when they are not getting a concept even after repeated teaching and learning?"*

There might not be a simple answer to this, but hopefully an **opportunity** to reflect.



Upcoming events

September 30 - October 5, 2018	Book Club & Young Farmers Club trip to Nairobi
October 3 - 5, 2018	Parent-Teacher Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none">Residential Parents Wednesday 3rd (2.00 – 5.00 pm) to Thursday 4th(12noon)Day parents Thursday 4th (12 noon) to Friday 5th
October 4, 2018	Year 6 & 7 parents meeting organized by PA (5 – 6pm)
October 5, 2018	DP parents University information session (5 – 6pm)
October 8 – 19, 2018	October break (Mandatory for Residential students)
October 19 – 8 December, 2018	Exchange Programme with Hyderabad
October 21, 2018	Residential students return
October 22, 2018	School opens

Kind regards,



Francis Kariuki
Principal, Senior School

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