



4th September 2019

Dear Parents,

It has been three weeks since the academic year began and we are glad to share with you how the students have settled in and also celebrate their achievements of during the break and the last few weeks. Both new and returning students have generally settled in well into the school programme and all programmes including enrichments have started.

This year, we have taken measures to ensure students have facilities to keep their belongings safely. They were given an opportunity to select a locker whenever they found convenient for them to use. Other lockers have been placed in various locations where students frequent and a token system put in place such that the security guards in these locations can lock the belongings in a locker and the student given a token. This means any student belongings found lying around on the floor or at the gazebos, it is will be taken to Ms. Lilian's office and a record of students who are coming to pick them will be kept. We will be contacting parents of students whose belongings keep being taken to the office.

Year 10 class of 2019 results

Our congratulations to the year 10 class of 2019 for their good results in the IB MYP E-assessment. Four students achieved an average of 6.0 and above out of a possible 7, with the top student Cinzia Torriani achieving an average of 6.4. The overall average for the cohort was 4.90 out of a possible 7.

Kenya Music Festival

In 2019, various Students from Junior and Senior School competed at the Mvita Sub-County, Mombasa County and Coast Regional Music Festivals in the months of June and July 2019 respectively. Out of the 24 students, 12 managed to reach the National Level at Kabarak University Nakuru from 3rd to 15th August 2019. Each category had between 16 – 24 competitors. Our students represented the school in various categories and despite the stiff competition from a range of competitors from other regions; they exhibited confidence and did exceptionally well to earn themselves and the Academy merit certificates and trophies. The results were as follows

CATEGORY	NAME OF STUDENT	POSITION/AWARD
106H Boy solo	Levern Mungai	4 th Position - Certificate
106H Boy solo	Ayaan Allarakhia	2 nd Position - Certificate
107H Girl Solo	Sonakshi Roy	3 rd Position - Certificate
107H Girl Solo	Abigail Abiero	1 st Position - Certificate
121H Own choice - Duet	Abigail Obiero	1 st Position - Certificate
	Sonakshi Roy	1 st Position - Certificate
122H Own Choice - Trio	Abigail Obiero,	1 st Position - Certificate
	Sonakshi Roy	1 st Position - Certificate
	Hilda Wambui	1 st Position - Certificate
902H Descant Recorder - Set Piece	Abigail Obiero	7 th Position - Certificate
911HA Descant Recorder - Set piece	Purity Kyalo	10 th Position - Certificate



Devotional Oriental Solo Singing	Azmat Amarshi	2nd Position - Certificate
Devotional Oriental Solo Singing	Karam Amarshi	3rd Position - Certificate
105H (Boy or girl under 10 yrs)	Jazmine Locklear	4th Position - Certificate

Ryerson Summer programme - DMZ Basecamp

DMZ Basecamp is Canada's first intensive student incubation program that helps young entrepreneurs create tech solutions to growing social or economic gaps in society over the course of four weeks in the summer. In this award-winning boot camp students learn how to develop and market their business ideas with help from industry mentors. The goal is to leave with a validated and refined business model tailored for long term success.

During the program, aspiring entrepreneurs bring their innovative ideas to life by learning about artificial intelligence and block chain technology. They are taught coding, 3D printing for prototyping and development, sales and finance, pitching, leadership training, public speaking and more. By the end of the program, five companies from each cohort are selected to compete for three prizes of \$5,000.

This year we had 3 students and 2 teachers attend the program. The teachers and 2 students were from the Academy in Mombasa (Samiha Mattar, Raphael Mwachiti, Ms. Samantha Caras and Ms. Kauthar Mohamed) while the remaining student (Ananya Shah) was from the Academy in Hyderabad.

All students participated in the boot camp and reached the semi-final stage. Raphael Mwachiti's project went further to the finals and he was among the three top finalists who won the \$5,000 prize. Congratulations to him and the team for achieving great success and developing their own business ideas to become aspiring entrepreneurs.

Diana Award 2019

Ziyaan Virji received the award for going above and beyond his everyday life to create and sustain positive change. The Diana Award, which is given in memory of Princess Diana, is considered one of the highest accolades for social action or humanitarian efforts that a young person can receive. He was recognized for launching Affordable and Accessible Sanitation for Women (AASW), which has helped almost 300 girls to acquire access to menstrual hygiene across six different countries which include Kenya, Tanzania, Pakistan, India, Nigeria, and the UAE and in 12 months to follow AASW aims to continue expanding to provide over 1,000 girls with access to sanitation.

Sports update

Please see attached.

Diploma Programme

The DP2s have hit the ground running. They submitted the 1st draft of their Extended Essays on the first Friday of their return. They are gearing up for their weekly tests now. They are also about to receive the prescribed TOK essay titles for their final TOK essays. The final versions of their Personal Statements are now being polished in their university counselling sessions. And of course, they are in varying stages of readiness with their subject specific IAs, depending on the subjects. So, this is a very academically rigorous and important time for them.

DP1s are settling into the demands of the program now. They had a very detailed initiation into the curriculum during the Orientation days which were first two days of school. Insights from school leaders, department heads, subject facilitators, coordinators, alumni, peers - on all aspects of the impending DP journey - were provided, and the sessions were interspersed with bonding activities



to ensure they retain energy and focus. Then they spent time finalizing their subject choices and most are settled now. The window for changes will close down at the end of week 6. To conclude acclimatization, they went on the 4 day orientation camp to Gilgil, Naivasha - and this was the culmination of their introductory phase. They bonded, learnt, understood themselves, each other and the program better. And now they are ready to really dive into the thick of things.



Middle Years Programme

New students in the MYP

We are pleased to welcome a total of 71 new students into the Middle Years Programme. We welcomed 35 students from our Junior school and 8 new students into the Year 6 class. There are 31 other students who have been accepted into Years 7, 8 and 9.

The students went through a two-day orientation programme that was aimed at helping them to understand the MYP and the structures at the Academy.

Second Exchange Programme

The second Year 9 cohort of Exchange students left for Hyderabad on Friday 30th August 2019. The 18 students and 2 teacher chaperons left for Hyderabad amid a lot of excitement and apprehension. As part of their preparation and orientation before departure, the parents of the students had a session with the personnel in charge of the exchange, led by Ms Elizabeth MacFarlane. Among the issues discussed were the expectations when the students get to Hyderabad, the curriculum and what needed to be done prior to the students' departure.



The Year students and their parents attend a session at school.



The 2019/2020 Exchange students also had a chance to meet with the 2018/2019 Exchange students. During the sessions, the first cohort was interrogated by the second cohort of Exchange students, who now have a better perspective about what to expect.

Some of the past and current Exchange students, discussing what to expect

Teachers from the two schools have been collaboratively planning the units to be taught in the two Academies since May 2019. Before the students left for Hyderabad, all teachers in all the subject areas had met virtually to standardize students' work, which will be beneficial later on when students complete their summative tasks, as their tasks will be assessed using agreed upon standards.



Individuals and Societies teachers from Hyderabad and Mombasa engaged in a standardization process.

We wish the students all the best and we are sure their experiences in Hyderabad will enrich their learning experiences as well as broaden their understanding and perspectives of other people.

Student Support & Wellbeing

To new beginnings...

When your life revolves around the school calendar, one becomes accustomed to wishing everyone a 'Happy New Year!' Hope yours has started off well, and you're as excited about a new beginning in your child's life as we are.

New beginnings often come with new anxieties – the anxiety of children growing up, the anxiety of children forming new relationships, the anxiety of children succeeding, but most of all the anxiety of children keeping happy. Nurturing environments and support systems become central at these times, and we look forward to yet another year of partnership in making this happen. In school we have already initiated conversations about systems in our environment, and the powerful impact they have on individuals. Behaviours, whether conscious or unconscious, can have a ripple effect

on our systems – think for instance of the time when you have returned home with some brilliant news. Your excitement and energy, in all likelihood, must have lifted the spirits of the others at home.

Keeping with this, we are hoping that together, we are able to continually lift our children in believing in themselves and being true to themselves.

We are looking at starting up ‘Parent Circles.’ These will be set up to create a safe and supportive space to share, learn and grow from the circles’ strengths. Every session will have a specific focus, and although the initial focus will be determined beforehand, the circle will determine the future session foci.

Year 6 – ‘We’re learning to aim!’

Although throwing a ball sounds like a piece of cake, the Year 6s soon discovered that aiming for the bucket was all about strategizing! Strategizing on where to stand, how to stand, how to focus amongst all the distraction, and how to reflect after an attempt. This was their introduction to goal setting – an important practice for all of us.

The team also shared about hurdles whilst working towards their goals – hurdles that they can be in



control of, for instance distraction from technology, and hurdles that they many have to work with or that may result in slowing down, for instance an injury. They also shared about their different strengths, and how they may approach the same task differently. It was enriching lesson with some excellent insights. We can’t wait to celebrate their goals!

Upcoming events

September 5, 2019	Year 6 parents meeting – 5.30 pm
September 5 – 10, 2019	CEM Test – Year 6 to DP1
September 12, 2019	Year 10 & DP2 2019 Top students Award
September 19, 2019	Year 7 parents meeting – 5.30 pm

Kind regards,



Francis Kariuki
Principal, Senior School

Engage with us on social media!

The Aga Khan Academies shares fascinating stories, videos and photo galleries on all our social media pages. We also have two ongoing social media campaigns, the Academies Journeys and 60 Stories for 60 Years, which provide interactive and engaging insight into the unique Academies community.

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