



4<sup>th</sup> March 2016

Dear Parents,

We end this week with great excitement and anticipation of our Junior School Arts Week, which takes place next week. The students started in their workshops during enrichment times two weeks ago. Attached with this newsletter you will find details about what has been going on in each workshop, as well as the logistics for the next week, with particular reference to the performance evenings on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March.**

The script for the performance has been written by students, with members from our Student Representative Council taking a major role in this, along with guidance from adults. It is inspired by the stories of a few people who have returned to Africa looking for relatives, in particular the recent one of Akinyi Ochieng who travelled from the United States to find and meet her father for the first time, who now lives in Kenya. The week after next we will be having an Exhibition displaying students' work.

### **Arts Week Logistics**

Next week will include performances and the production of creative works. We will have professional guests at school (a photographer and a choreographer) and your child will be finding out about the cultural elements connected to the theme of their workshop.

The performance will take place on **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March** and **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March** from **6:45pm to 8:30pm** at the Academy amphitheatre. Your child will need to be in school by 6.00pm each day to get ready. You are very welcome to join us for both the events, which is free of charge! Please bring with you, family and friends.

For audience arrangements we need to know the numbers for each evening, so please let the school office know how many people you will be and which evening(s) you plan to attend at [rebecca.davis@agakhanacademies.org](mailto:rebecca.davis@agakhanacademies.org) by Tuesday, 8<sup>th</sup> March. We will send home a ticket with your child.

If your child is not able to go home or stay with a friend and return to school by 6.00pm, please inform us via your child's diary or a note to the teacher. We encourage students to go home before the event; however, for those staying at school, there will be supervision provided. **If your child is staying please provide them with an extra drink and a substantial snack, such as sandwiches and fruit, or some money to buy some refreshments at the tuck shop as he/she will be in school until 8.30pm.** The school bus will depart school at 3.00pm as usual.

For the performance, all students are asked to bring into school black clothing as a base (e.g. a black t-shirt and black trousers or leggings, or a black dress (girls). Please send this into school by Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March in a plastic bag, labelled with your child's name.

Any parents who would like to join and help us prepare students (make-up and putting on costumes) are most welcome and should let the school office know at [rebecca.davis@agakhanacademies.org](mailto:rebecca.davis@agakhanacademies.org), who will put them in touch with the relevant teachers.

The week of 14<sup>th</sup> March we will have an exhibition in the Junior School Library of the student work from this week. Parents are invited to come and view this on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March from 1.30pm to 3.00pm** and on **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March from 8.00am to 12.00 noon**.

## Recent Sports Events

### **CASA Age Group Swimming Championships (From Sports Department)**

Our Academy hosted the CASA Age Group 10 years and over championships on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2016. This time again, our swimmers achieved outstanding results. Our boys and girls teams took the first place with 370 points and 390 points respectively. Congratulations to the swimmers!



**CASA 10+ Year Age Group**

### **National Kenya Swimming Federation Gala Nairobi (From the Sports Department)**

Our Senior School swimmers attended the National KSF (Kenya Swimming Federation) Gala in Nairobi which took place last weekend. The team was relatively small with only 15 swimmers, but were able to shine again. Our swimmers won 6 national titles in the event whilst 6 others qualified to swim in a final. The medals garnered were 6 gold, 6 silver and 4 bronze! After this gala seven AKAM students were selected to represent Kenya at the CANA Zone 4 Championships in Mauritius, in April. Congratulations to the team, who are also an inspiration to our junior swimmers.

### **Hockey (From Coach Ndungu)**

#### **Inter-School Hockey**

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March the girls U11 team played against Braeburn in an away match and were beaten 1-0. It was a tightly contested game in which our girls played at their very best. Well done to the team for their efforts; this is the only match they have lost, in the three they have played this season.



**Warming-up – match vs Braeburn**



**After the match**

The boys' team is looking forward to their last two matches of the season, against Braeburn on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March (away) and Mombasa Academy on Tuesday 15 March (away).

### **Book Fair & Mother-Tongue Celebration**

On 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> February 2016 the Junior School hosted the annual Book Fair, with the aim of nurturing a love for reading within the entire school community and developing perspectives from around the world through storytelling.

The fair consisted of not only a book exhibition, but also storytelling sessions in five different languages, namely: Kiswahili, Urdu, English, Tajik and French. The student community was invited to attend the storytelling sessions told in mother-tongues, led by various faculty members. It was an enriching experience hearing stories from around the globe showing how sounds, emotions, actions, props and body language help narrate a story more effectively than the otherwise plain use of words. At AKAM, we believe and promote the use of mother tongue, as it is part and parcel of who we are; exposure to different languages is a window into people's cultures.



**Mother-tongue story sessions**

## Friday Assembly

### Year 2 Materials Matter Assembly (message from the Year 2 Team)



The Year 2 students presented an assembly on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016. They started off with the School Prayer in Kiswahili and then entertained us with a song about the properties of different materials such as metal, plastic and wood. They presented some riddles too and everyone, including some parents, enjoyed guessing the materials they were describing. They also reflected on the different literary genres that they focused on in class such as Realistic Fiction (Unit 1), Poetry (Unit 2) and Fairy Tales and Folktales (Unit 3). Their current class book is 'The Iron Man', by Ted Hughes, which is a work of Science Fiction (Unit 4). Their current unit is under the transdisciplinary theme, 'How the World Works' in which they are focusing on how materials are used based on their properties. The students created a short play based on the book, 'The Paper Bag Princess' by Robert Munch, and they included superhero characters that they created themselves. They even had a short fashion show in the end! Everyone joined in when they sang 'Count on Me' by Bruno Mars. We can definitely count on fun, relevant and engaging learning in Year 2!

### Curriculum Overviews – Unit 4

Attached with this newsletter are the Year 1 to Year 5 Curriculum Overviews for Unit 4.

### Dates for your diary!

Please take note of the following dates.

<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March</b> 6.30pm – 9.00pm Amphitheatre	<b>AKAM Senior School DP1 Play - <i>Romeo and Julie</i></b> Tickets may be purchased at the door. We have been informed that this is a child-friendly performance so Junior School students are welcome to attend.
<b>Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b> 6.45am – 8.30pm	<b>Arts Performance</b> in the Junior School

<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2016</b> 6.45 – 8.00pm	<b>Arts Performance</b> in the Junior School
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2016</b>	<b>Arts Week Exhibition</b> in the Junior School library
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2016</b>	<b>Arts Week Exhibition</b> in the Junior School library
<b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>CASA Junior Swimming Championships</b>
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b> 1.45pm – 4.00pm	<b>Athletic Heats</b> (selection of competitors for the Inter-School Athletics event on Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> March)
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b> 5.15pm – 6.15pm - Library	<b>PYP Exhibition and end of PYP Field Trip meeting</b> (for Year 5 parents)
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016</b> 8.00am – 1.00pm <i>Sports field</i>	<b>Inter-School Athletics Competition</b> Mr Ndungu will be in touch with the families of students who have qualified for this event. All students and parents are welcome to attend to support and cheer on the school.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 8.00am – 12.30pm	<b>Junior School Inter-House Swimming Gala</b> All parents welcome.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March <b>12.30pm</b>	<b>School Closure</b> - Please note that students will finish school after the gala
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	<b>Term 2 break</b>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	School resumes for Term 3

We look forward to sharing many of these events with you.

Wishing you a wonderful and restful weekend.

Kind regards,

***Isla Gordon***  
***Principal, Junior School***