



25<sup>th</sup> September 2015

Dear Parents,

Newsletter No. 3 2015-2016 means we are now six weeks into the school year! Our students continue to inspire and delight us with their perceptive and insightful thoughts and comments as part of their learning, not least in their reflections during our Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September assembly on International Peace Day. When we meet in October, we look forward to sharing with you your child's progress, areas for focus and their goals for the next part of this school year.

**Parent – Teacher Conferences: 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October**

Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October. The attached letter gives you details of the times and days for the different year levels. Please complete and return to school the slip at the bottom of the letter, to enable us to book a time slot for your child.

Ongoing communication with parents about your child is central to our beliefs for a collaborative working community at AKA, M, and we remind you that you should not hesitate to get in touch regarding any concerns. The teachers' emails were provided on the profiles which were sent out two weeks ago.

**Student Assessments – External and Internal**

The first weeks of a school year are a time where teachers focus on getting to know their students as they enter the new year levels. Part of this means formal assessments to establish an understanding of and to monitor your child's work. These assessments are ongoing over much of the course of this first term and include the International Schools' Assessment (ISA) <https://www.acer.edu.au/isa>, (for Years 3 to 5), evaluations from Durham University's Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) <http://www.cem.org/about-us>, as well other core curriculum and logic assessments. The CEM data is for the school's internal purpose, looking at the student cohort as a whole. In February we will receive the ISA results which we then share with you. When you meet with your child's teacher(s) in October, they will be able to tell about some of the initial assessments carried out during these past weeks.

**Sports**

AKA, M has again been proud of its recent sporting achievements. Below you will find details from our Academy's Head of Sports, Mr. Gervais Ramar and the Junior School Sports Coordinator, Mr. Anthony N'dungu.



## Swimming

On Saturday 19th and Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September we entered 69 swimmers in the CASA Novice Gala, winning 20 gold, 13 silver and 10 bronze medals! The results were:

1. The Aga Khan Academy, Mombasa - 303. 50 points
2. Busy Bee School - 209. 50 points
3. Nyali Primary School - 144 points
4. Oshwal Academy, Mombasa - 92 points

The girls' team finished first whilst the boys took fourth place, which would have done better had seven of the team members not been unwell and therefore did not swim. The good news was that overall, the AKA, M swimmers came first! Well done to all the students who took part.

## Cricket

The AKA, M U11 Boys Cricket team started this year's season on a high note in the Mombasa International Schools Cricket League. The team had its first match on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> September against Mombasa Academy and displayed good levels of coordination and team work. AKA, M won with 73 runs in 8 overs whilst MA managed 47 runs in 8 overs.

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September we played against Oshwal Academy with each team having to bowl 8 overs. Our team managed to attain 79 runs with an average of 9.9 runs per over. Oshwal managed 74 runs and we were thus the winner with a margin of 5 runs. Well done to the team for a successful and spirited start to the cricket season!



AKAM U11 Boys Cricket team with Oshwal Academy on 22nd September 2015

### Year 3 Assembly

Last Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> September, the Year 3 students shared with us interesting data they collected as part of their Unit of Inquiry on *Healthy Living*. This data had a focus on recording the snacks that our students eat at break time. The students concluded that, “the survey showed that many students do not have a ‘healthy snack’ at school”, and they request that you join them in their action by providing healthy food for your child so that he/she has balanced nutrition. The students will also request for the canteen to be stocked with healthier snacks.

Attached is the power point with the survey data. This learning experience for Year 3 is very much in line with the principles of our programme, which encourages our learners to collect and analyse primary sources of data rather than just believing what they read. They are then encouraged to present findings and make recommendations as a result of these. We congratulate Year 3 on sharing with us some of their interesting inquiries and observations from their unit work.



*Year 3 Assembly – 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015*

*A wow moment to celebrate a birthday with vegetarian pizza*

### Year 5 Assembly

Today, Year 5A provided us with an entertaining assembly linked to their Unit of Inquiry on *Migration*. Their understanding about the current issues and sensitivities around this were presented in a unique and talented manner, using story as a means of delivering the key messages.

### Collaboration around Curriculum Matters

Teacher and student collaboration is essential for any great school. Our teachers meet weekly to discuss and build relevant learning experiences for your child. You will see in the photos below, our teachers, as they met regarding curriculum planning and integrating the subjects of IT, Art, Music and Kiswahili with class teaching time.



*Staff Professional Development Session on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2015*

Finally, if you are wondering what to do this week-end, please pay a visit to the City Mall Second Inter-School Art Exhibition (22<sup>nd</sup> September to 22<sup>nd</sup> October), where they have ten pieces of AKA, M students' art work on display, five of them having been submitted from the Junior School. There is a box at the venue in which you can put in a vote for your favourite piece. We thank all students who submitted art work for this exhibition; the prints are on display in the Junior School.

Wishing all our Muslim families *Eid Mubarak* and to all, have a wonderful weekend.

With kind regards,

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

Attachments:

1. Parent-Teacher Conference letter
2. Year 3 assembly presentation

