



24<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to Term 3! It was a pleasure to see so many of you at the Junior School Inter-House Sports Day, which took place at the end of last term, and we look forward to several other events over the next couple of months.

*Inter-House Sports Day on 27<sup>th</sup> March*



### **First Assembly of the Term**

The children have returned to school refreshed after their holiday with great enthusiasm. We had an assembly on the first day back; this time was used to remind ourselves of our mission and the purpose of education within the context of AKAM, as well as for a moment of contemplation and sharing of compassion in the aftermath of the tragic events in Garissa.

The theme of today's assembly was on Earth Day with a wealth of information provided by students on themes connected to our planet, as well as a song presented by our Year 3s.

### **Security**

You will have received an email from our Head of Academy, Mr Simon Otieno, regarding security enhancements for the school. Part of the recent security measures have required cancelling field trips. Despite this, we endeavour to continue providing rich learning experiences for the students, which will include bringing speakers into school.



## **Enrichment Programme**

The Enrichment Programme started this past Monday. Last week, we spoke to the students about the importance of life-balance, keeping ourselves healthy and developing skills and hobbies. We very much appreciate staff sharing their areas of interest with the students through the Enrichment Programme.

## **Lost Property**

In the past two weeks several food containers and water bottles have been left at school. At the Student-Led Conferences items will be displayed to be reclaimed, but in the meantime, please pass by the office if your child has lost a belonging. At the end of this academic year the unclaimed items will be donated to students at an outreach school.

## **Term 3 Calendar**

Sent along with this newsletter is the Calendar of Events for this term. In particular, take note of the following dates:

- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May: No School – Labour Day
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May: **Year 5** Parent information Evening (5.00pm – 6.30pm)
- Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May: No School - Half Term holiday
- Thursday 21 May: PYP Coffee Morning: *End of Year Parent Reflection Session* – (8.00am – 9.00am)
- Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May: Student-Led Conferences & Portfolio Sharing
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May: Student-Led Conferences & Portfolio Sharing
- Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May: Swahili Day
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June: No School – Madaraka Day
- Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June: PYP Meeting: *End of Year Parent Reflection Session* – (5.00pm – 6.00pm)
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June: Inter-House Swimming Gala (8.15am – 12.30pm)
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June: Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June: The PYP Exhibition

## **Student Reports**

Currently in the Junior School, we are transitioning our Student Report to use the *Managebac* platform. As part of this transition, we have been reviewing the current reports in order to make any adjustments to improve them. We will send you your child's next report during the final week of the term.

On the subject of reports and what motivates children to learn, we have been having some interesting discussions at AKAM about intrinsic and extrinsic motivation. This TED talk by Dan Pink, though not related specifically to Education, is a thought-provoking eighteen minute clip well-worth watching. It provides insightful ideas which can be applied to school contexts.

[http://www.ted.com/talks/dan\\_pink\\_on\\_motivation?language=en](http://www.ted.com/talks/dan_pink_on_motivation?language=en)

I do hope you enjoy the clip and wish you a restful and enjoyable week-end.

With kind regards,

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

