

Dear Parents,

As this school year draws to an end, we send you a final newsletter from the Junior School. This has details of events from the past three weeks as well as other important bits of information for you, as we round off this school year and get ready to start the next one.

Key recent events have been the:

- Inter-House Swimming Gala
- Swahili Day
- Year 5 Events: PYP Exhibition and Sway Day (spending time in Year 6 classes)
- Parent PYP Coffee Morning and Evening

Important Information:

- Enrichment Programme – ended this week
- Staffing Update
- Key dates for next year

Swahili Day

The past weeks have been full of activity. On 29th May, the whole school celebrated its annual Swahili Day. It was wonderful to see all our students and staff get into the spirit of the day, taking pride in Swahili culture and fully engaging in the celebration; dressing in Swahili attire and participating in the special events the day offered. The Junior School assembly was enriched by an enlightening speech given by our guests of honour, Mr and Mrs Klueg, who spoke of their experiences in learning the language and about the local culture during their recent years in Kenya. This was especially poignant with the timing for them as a family, as they prepare to return to their home-country. We have very much appreciated their generosity given to our school community. Also visiting that week were colleagues from our sister school in Hyderabad, India, who thoroughly appreciated the day.





Swahili Day - 29th May

Inter-House Swimming Gala

The annual Inter-House Swimming Gala, another successful day held last Friday 5th June, was much enjoyed by the members of the Junior School. The Academy is well-known for its competitive teams and skilled swimmers. The Gala was a day where students were able to be competitive and show good sportsmanship, and equally an opportunity for all students in the Junior School to participate.



On the topic of swimming events, a write-up on the Kenya Swimming Federation event in Nairobi on 15th – 17th May has been posted on the website, which you can view at <http://www.agakhanacademies.org/mombasa/aka-mombasa-rake-results-ksf-junior-championships>

Year 5 Events: PYP Exhibition, Sway Day and Trip to Camp Kenya, Tsavo

On Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th June, the Year 5 students took great pride in sharing with the community their learning journeys and presentations for the PYP Exhibition. The range of areas that the students had explored was quite varied; from fashion to animal welfare, gaming addiction and issues in sports, health and self-esteem, were some amongst many. On the official opening, the evening started with a ceremony, which included speeches and a song from our students, as well as an address from the guest of honour, the renowned coast-based chef, Ali Mandhry. The students then gave their presentations to the community. Feedback from our guests was extremely positive and our students certainly rose to the occasion, clearly enjoying sharing their newly learnt knowledge with the community.



In preparation for moving on to Year 6, the Year 5 students and their teachers spent a good part of Wednesday 10th June attending classes with their Year 6 peers. Colleagues from the both Junior and Senior School have been collaborating to ensure a smooth transition for our students as they prepare to integrate into the Middle Years Programme (MYP).

The Year 5 students left on a field-trip to Tsavo on Thursday 11th June; we look forward to the students returning, ready for their Junior School Graduation ceremony and party which takes place on Monday 15th June.



PYP Coffee Morning and Evening

These events were well attended by many parents and feedback suggested that they were informative and interesting in terms of reflections from this year and school goals for the next academic year. At the end of the presentations the parents provided feedback through a *Two Stars and a Wish* session. This feedback will be collated and shared during the Parent Information Evening which takes place at the start of the next academic year, on Thursday 27th August.

Student End of Year School Reports

School reports will be made available to parents by the end of next week. These will be emailed directly to you via our information system, Managebac. You ought to have received a welcome email from Managebac enabling you to navigate the site, with details of your log in information prompting you to change your password. If you did not receive this email or if your email has changed since, then it is imperative that you let Ms. Cochu know as soon as possible, to avoid any trouble with you receiving the reports: Rukiya.Cochu@agakhanacademies.org

This is our first time in the Junior School, using this platform, and hope that we do not encounter technical issues. To help you access your child's report, we have attached a parent's guide at this link: <http://managebac.screenstepslive.com/s/support/m/3621>, which will help you navigate and access reports. However, if you have not received your child's report by the evening of Thursday 18th June, please be sure to email the school office at rebecca.davis@agakhanacademies.org

Enrichment Programme

The Enrichment Programme ended this week and there will be no clubs and activities next week, apart from LAMDA on Wednesday and Thursday. The buses will depart school at 3.00pm from



Monday to Thursday. Please note that school finishes at **12.00 noon on Friday 19th June** for all students.

Key dates

Key dates for the 2015 - 2016 school year have now been set and we will share these with you once we return in August. We have here some key ones for you to take note of:

- Monday 17th August: Junior School Orientation for all **new students ONLY**.
- Tuesday, 18th August: School starts for all students, at 7.45am – 2.40pm
- Thursday, 27th August: Parent Information Evening, 5.00pm to 7.00pm

Staff Farewells

Finally, as the year draws to an end, it is time to say farewell to some of our school families and two of our Junior School colleagues. Samson Obura has worked with us in the Library at the Academy since it opened eleven years ago, and in fact worked at the Aga Khan Junior Academy for two years prior to this. During this time he has inspired students through the medium of books and stories. At a recent event, several of this year's DP2 students expressed their fond memories of their time in the Library, whilst here at the Junior School. We sincerely thank Samson for all the time he has given the Academy and wish him the very best in his next adventures.

Edwina Lunani will be leaving us too, as she moves to Canada with her husband, Naheed Bardai. Edwina has devoted her time to the Year 1 and Year 2 children, as well as to many other activities such as recently running the much-loved cookery enrichment club. Always involved in the life and soul of the school, Edwina will be sorely missed by the students and her colleagues. We wish her the very best in her new life in Canada and lots of success as she embarks on further studies.

This brings us to the end of an exciting school year. I have had a wonderful six months in my time here at the Academy and was really appreciative of the Junior School team having started the school year so well prior to my arrival. We are sad to see some of our students and families leaving AKAM, and wish them a safe and inspiring onward journey. For the rest of us, we look forward to seeing you when school starts back in August.

You will be receiving the next newsletter just prior to school reopening. In the meantime, have a wonderful and relaxing break.

Kind regards,

Isla Gordon
Principal, Junior School

