

Newsletter 7/2015-2016

 $14^{\mbox{\tiny th}}$ March 2016

Dear Parents,

It is yet another three weeks full of activities and engagement of our students which we would like to share with you. This is a demonstration of the diverse abilities, skills and talents that our students have and which they are exploiting them to achieve the success. This exposure is crucial in development of their leadership skills.

As we endeavour to improve on the use of technology to enhance teaching and learning, the IT have been working towards giving email addresses to students which they can use for official communication. They have been successful and a roll out to students was done last week. There are several benefits associated with this as highlighted below:

- This will help students with their identity as the domain (akamom.org) is related to the academy website. If you type www.akamom.org, you will see that the academy home page opens up.
- There is inbuilt 50 GB storage. Besides, it is part of GAFE (Google Apps for Education), a lot of google apps and tools (like Google Drive, sheet, docs, YouTube, google plus etc.) will also be available.
- 🖊 Students can keep it with them even after graduating
- It will also become easier for students to communicate with the teachers on the ManageBac platform using this id.



As part of sharing good practice, on March 3, 2016 our library welcomed students from Technical University of Kenya who are pursuing a degree in Information Science for benchmarking libraries.

The visit focussed on areas of modern technology such us use of N Computing which enable multiple users to simultaneously share a single operating system; A One Stop Shop which enables Circulation, Referencing, Current Awareness, User Education, Research, Access to Online Journals such as Questia School and JStor databases; Reprographic services which include; Scanning, Printing and Photocopying services, Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) which enable users to search, identify and locate information resources available in the Library. Other areas include availability of space and length of time the Library is open. The visitors observed that our Library has invested on enough space making it easier for the students to study quietly without interruptions and opens for long hours hence enabling the students to spend maximum time in the library. They appreciated the opportunity the Academy has offered for the second time now.



Diploma Programme

DP2

Already over a 100 admission offers in top universities around the world, and many with full scholarships! However, no one is getting complacent, as is evident from their mock examination experience which concluded a week. In general they have been a far more successful effort than the pre-mock examinations.

Extended Essays are all done and submitted and ready to be dispatched to IB. Likewise with TOK Essays, the only difference being these are soft copy uploads.

Other internal assessments are on the verge of completion. So now, with those pressurizing deadlines almost out of the way, the total focus for all students is on preparing for the final examinations which commence from the 2^{nd} and end on 20^{th} May 2016.

Before that, of course, there is the exclusive Parent Teacher Conference for them on the 22nd March at 4 pm. Parents are requested to definitely prioritize it.

They go on study leave on 22^{nd} April 2016. Their journey in school will culminate on the 21^{s} May with the Graduation Ceremony in the morning and the Graduation Ball in the evening.

DP1

'Romeo and Julie', the DP1 play, finally arrived on Saturday, 5th March – and really soared. It was an unqualified success in the sense that all age groups in the audience, from 7 to 70, were equally entertained and engaged. Transforming a revered Shakespearean tragedy into a laugh riot of disneyesque proportions was a gamble our students willingly took, and in doing so, they exemplified on ground the IB Learner Profile of being risk takers and of being courageous. It was a risk that finally paid off handsomely in the end. Besides pulling in a sellout crowd and exceeding expectations, the process of putting this production together honed many important life skills for the students – coordination, negotiation, time management, problem solving, communication, resilience, self- belief, creativity, camaraderie, passion, teamwork – all the key skills that one needs to lead a successful life and build lasting equations. Many confessed after the performance that this was a school memory they are probably going to cherish the most.

All students have now had their EE topics approved and have been assigned Extended Essay supervisors. So as far as sharpening the most pivotal skills of independent research and analysis are concerned, they are well and truly on their way.

Middle Years Programme

The inaugural mock examination for the 2016 year 10 cohort successfully took place for three days starting 29th February to 2nd March 2016. It was a unique experience for this cohort who will be the first group to sit for **MYP** onscreen examinations. We believe it was a good preparation for them for it gave them an insight into what kind of questions they should expect in the final examinations. The examination report will be released during the parent teacher conference coming up soon.

It is also worth noting that, a group from the same cohort are taking part in The Association of International Schools in Africa (AISA) Global Issues Service Summit (GISS) hosted by The International School of Tanganyika in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania which started on 12th and will end on 14th March, 2016. The projects being presented were selected from the personal projects that they recently concluded. The three days will be focused on student workshops, keynote addresses and service learning sessions.



Student Life

Several events took place during and after the February break. We had a team of DP1's History students travel to Rwanda for an Academic trip, which to them was a unique learning experience as they were able to identify with what they learn in class about the Rwanda genocide.

Another team of senior students attended the East Africa MUN conference in Nairobi and they showcased their debating prowess in world related issues. One of the students, Zarina Mamadbekova in DP1 was recognized a best speaker.

Our students also took part in the annual Cerebral Palsy walk on 6^{th} March as a way of raising funds in support of the organization that work with the affected children. The school received a certificate of appreciation.

House events

Strong house events are essential for developing strong relationships, teamwork, organization, and leadership skills. We have seen our students continue to demonstrate these in the House competitions. In the recently held athletics house competition, the Eagle House emerged the winners. Congratulations are in-order for them for this achievement. The Fashion show house competition and the Chess competition are the next events coming soon.



Enrichment Activities

Developing a balanced person demands that we provide opportunities that allow for our students to demonstrate their other abilities outside the classroom. We are proud at the levels of commitments by the students to the sign-up enrichment activities and it will be good to have discussions on the same with your children.

Sports

Our students have been engaged in different competitive sports in the last three weeks. The sports included swimming, athletics, hockey, football and basketball.

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The Academy initiated and hosted the first AKA, Mombasa East-Africa Sports Festival to provide more competition for Academy schools in different regions of East-Africa. Four schools including AKA, Mombasa were involved in three different sports i.e. basketball, soccer and hockey on the weekend of 27th and 28th February. The other schools included Oshwal Academy Nairobi, AKA, Nairobi and Braeburn Arusha. Our school emerged the overall winner having won in all categories of basketball and soccer for both boys and girls and had mixed results in hockey.

During the same weekend, our swimmers attended the National KSF (Kenya Swimming Federation) gala which took place in Nairobi. The team of 15 swimmers was able to shine again by winning 6 national titles. Additionally, 6 other swimmers qualified to swim in a final. The medal winners were as follows:

	Gold	Silver	Bronze
Riva Karia	2	1	0
Karan Khagram	1	1	1
Saloni Patel	1	1	0
Tiana Vora	1	0	1
Alisha Varia	1	0	0
Elisha Ekirikubinza	0	2	1
Aheer Chatterjee	0	0	1
Caroline Kameta	0	1	0
Total	6	6	4

Some of the swimmers were selected to represent Kenya at the CANA Zone 4 Championships in Mauritius in April. These swimmers include: Tiana Vora, Saloni Patel, Kunaal Khagram, Lucal Mancini, Aheer Chatterjee, Caroline Kameta and Shaan Vora.

Between 3^{rd} and 6^{th} March, our school hosted the Mombasa County basketball games and both our boys and girls teams emerged as the 2016 County champions and were featured in a newspaper article. They will represent Mombasa county in the regional competitions to be held in Taita Taveta County.

On Thursday 3rd and Saturday 5th March 2016 our athletics team of 14 students participated in MISL Senior Athletics at Shree and our strength in technical field and short track events have become more obvious as shown by the results below: Relay

Inclay		
4x100 mts	14 to 15 years old boys	1st place
4x100 mts	14 to 15 years old girls	2nd place
4x100 mts	16+ girls	3rd place

Aminulloh Mamadziyoev	1st Discus	2nd Shot put	Relay
Anzhela Mirzoeva	1st - 200 mts		
Azaan Sayani	6st - 800 mts		
Billal Adamjee	4th - 200 mts		
David Solomon	1st – 100 mts	1st – long jump	
Hussain Cochinwala	5th – 100 mts	3rd – High jump	
Kindi Amir	5th – 100 mts		
Lovely Mughalu			Relay
Marco Adriko			Relay
Tobby Khoi	1st - 100 mts	2nd - Javelin	Relay
William Baya	1st - 400 mts	3rd – High jump	Relay
Umi Bakari (participating in 16+)	3rd - 200 mts	5th - 800 mts	Relay
Zuhali Suhrob	1st - 100 mts		

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We congratulate all the participants in all the above events and look forward to even greater achievement in upcoming events

Upcoming events

March 15 2016	Visit by Higher Education Forum
March 19, 2016	Music, Art, Drama(MAD) Night - See poster
March 21 & 22, 2016	Peace Summit
March 22, 2016	DP2 parents evening to discuss Mock examinations results
March 23 & 24, 2016	Parent-Teacher Conference for year 6 to DP1 - Residential students can only leave after seeing all their teachers. Release of year 10 mock results
March 24 to 26, 2016	Regional basketball games in Taita Taveta County
March 25 - April 3, 2016	Holiday (Mandatory for Residential students)

Have a wonderful week!

Kind regards, Francis Kariuki Principal, Senior School



