



HIGHLIGHTS

- FOCUS ON DP
- FOCUS ON MYP
- PASTORAL CARE
- DESK
- MYP SERVICE AS
- ACTION
- FOCUS ON CAREERS
- FOCUS ON LIBRARY
- FOCUS ON FILM
- FOCUS ON PHE

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER



Jerri-Lynn Hainstock

A highlight for April was the receiving of the final Evaluation Report from IB which detailed their Continuum visit in March. A Continuum visit entails the assessment of a school's multiple IB Programmes (PYP, MYP and DP). The Visiting Team, comprised of experienced educators and IB representatives from various parts of the world, included: Margareth Harris, MYP School Services Manager, IBAEM Office, The Hague; Katrin Fox, DP School Services Manager, IBAEM Office, The Hague; Bruce Ashton, Head of School, the International Preparatory School, Mauritius; Gayethree Bojnauth, Head of Science, Le Bocage International School; Margriet Fabier, Class Teacher, the International School of Luanda; and Kathleen Bowin, MYP Coordinator, the American International School, Lusaka. The IB Continuum Evaluation Visit is designed to ensure that standards are fully implemented and in practice in a school.

Standards and Practices include Philosophy, Organization, Collaboration, Written Curriculum and Taught Curriculum, and Assessment. Stakeholders were involved in the Self-Study process. Students, teachers, non-teaching staff, administrators, parents and Board members worked together to identify commonalities across all programmes.

We would like to thank all members of our school community for their contributions. Please see the Evaluation report letter posted on ManageBac which highlights commendations for all three schools.

FOCUS ON STUDENT GOVERNMENT

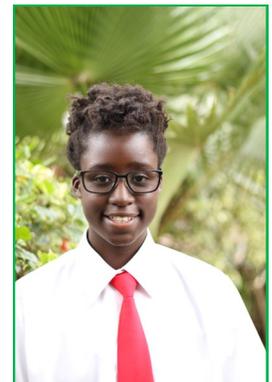
Our successful grade 10 prefects have been selected and now complete the Student Government. Congratulations!



Aliya Daya, Arts Prefect



Atuhaire Ambala, Sports Prefect, Boys'



Vivien Ouko Sports Prefect, Girls'

Mobile:

Tel: 0736 380101

Email: infos@akesk.org



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations



FOCUS ON IB DP— Maurice Mugalizi, DP Coordinator



Maurice Mugalizi

IBDP 2

I wish to thank in advance the DP2 parents for the support during the ongoing final examinations. The students are adhering to the exam regulations as guided. The exams ended on Friday 19th May 2017. I would like to request the students to officially clear by returning books and other learning materials borrowed as soon as they complete their exams. This will pave way for release of all academic documents required by universities. Secondly, graduation is on Saturday 10th June 2017 at the Aga Khan Pavilion. Invitation cards and other details will follow later. On the same evening will be prom party, for only MYP 5, DP1 and DP2 students. Kindly support your son/daughter to attend this event. The tickets are already on sale at Kshs.3,000. Strictly note that outsiders (cousins, friends, etc.) are not allowed to attend prom. Tickets must be bought on or before 26th May 2017 at the latest. This is to enable proper planning and other logistical requirements. There will be no tickets sale at the door on the material day. The Head Teacher, Faculty members and the Coordinators will be on supervision assisted by the hotel security.

IBDP 1

Writing Workshop

The DP1 students were taken through a writing skills workshop on Saturday May 6, 2017 at the Brackenhurst Conference Centre. This exercise equips the learners with skills they require when writing their extended essays, Theory of Knowledge essays, written assignments and internal assessments. At this point, I wish to remind parents as stipulated in the assessment policy that the final deadline for the extended essay writing process is November 30, 2017. Each student must take his/her own initiative to consult with their respective extended essay supervisor. They need to exhibit independence, integrity, communication, honesty and aim to produce quality work throughout the writing process.

Leadership Retreat

The final session for the leadership programme will culminate with a one night retreat at either Lukenya Getaway or Brackenhurst on June 24 2017(TBC). This is a crucial session where discussion will take place on project management and how to execute their final service project as a key requirement of the programme. Whoever will miss this session will not continue with the programme and no certificate will be issued. Details on the cost will follow soon. Kindly note this information is only applicable to the 27 students who enrolled in this programme.

IBDP 1 WRITING WORKSHOP AT BRACKENHURST



Aardash, Ammar, Aashika, Samara, Isabella, Raisa & Azrah very keen at the workshop



Ms. Irene presenting to DP1 on Language Acquisition at Brackenhurst

Maurice Mugalizi, IBDP Coordinator

FOCUS ON IB MYP - MYP DEPUTY HEAD



Roma Bhargava

Revival, rejuvenation are the words that come to your mind when you think of term three. Spring break was a great respite from two action packed terms. Term three is a very short term with a lot to achieve. We started the term by working collaboratively with the teachers. Planning, reflecting, brainstorming is the best way to strengthen teaching learning practices at the school. Day 1 of this term started with sharing good practices to further empower the teachers. At the same time, we received our Evaluation report from IB, which will guide us through the transition process and pave the way for future success. We also had an information session led by Ms. Nderi for grade 10 Personal Project to students give them an early start and sufficient time to assign well thought out action plans. The personal project guide, timeline and the planning sheet were shared with the students and also uploaded on ManageBac for further guidance and reference. We, as teachers, aspire to inspire and to open minds. In order to do so, we need to interact with people from different cultures and different walks of life. In the month of June, The Academy will be looking forward to interacting with a team of teachers coming from McAuliffe International School in the USA.

Roma Bhargava, Deputy Head MYP

FOCUS ON IB MYP COORDINATOR



David Musyoki

MYP schools communicate assessment data formally to parents in variety of ways, using a clear process and at frequent intervals. In our school we report student achievement via:

- Report cards
- Parent conferences
- Student-led conferences

A student-led conference is a meeting where the student leads a discussion and explanation about their learning with their parent/ guardian. The teachers help to prepare the student before the conference, but on the conference day, the student acts independently. Each student shares hi/her learning from the all subjects of MYP by showcasing pieces of work in a portfolio.

Student-led conferences reflect the belief that students should be actively involved in their learning and assume responsibility for the learning process. Through a student-led conference, students become more motivated, reflective and evaluative. They also become more critical in their approach to learning. One of the main goals of education is to help students become independent learners and competent communicators who are eager to participate in society and make the world a better place. Such students and future citizens need to be aware of their own strengths and needs. They need to be self-motivated problem solvers and action-oriented, creative thinkers. Preparing for and participating in student-led conferences teaches students to be reflective, to self-assess, to set goals and to communicate effectively. To this end we expect all parents to participate in the forthcoming Student-led conference to be held on Tuesday May 30, 2017 for MYP 1 - 4 students.

David Musyoki, Assistant MYP Coordinator

FOCUS ON ASSISTANT IB MYP COORDINATOR



Samuel Musili

The IGCSE examinations have begun in earnest and students are in high spirits, tackling one paper after the other. Teachers, too, continue to free up their time to attend to questions from the candidates. Parents and guardians continue to ensure that the candidates are well catered for and availed in school for the examinations on time. The exams end on Friday June 9, 2017 even though some students may finish earlier. I would like to request the students to initiate the clearing process by returning books and other learning materials borrowed so that the same may be used by the MYP 4 students.

Secondly, graduation will be held on Saturday June 10, 2017 at the Aga Khan Pavilion. Invitation cards and other details will follow later. On the same evening there will be a prom party, for only MYP 5, DP1 and DP2 students. Kindly support your son/daughter to attend this event.

Samuel Musili, Assistant MYP Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE DESK

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELOR' S CORNER



This month we have continued to help all students in the areas of academic achievement, personal/social development and academic development, ensuring today's students become the productive, well-adjusted adults of tomorrow. Our main goal of counseling is to take a proactive and preventative approach when possible, but also to work with students to resolve current issues that impact personal growth and achievement. This term we continue to interact with the students during study skills lessons. The lessons continue to be comprehensive in scope, preventative in design, and developmental in nature.

The purpose of program/lessons is to impart specific skills and learning opportunities in a proactive, preventive manner, ensuring all students can achieve success. Preventative education can be accomplished through the implementation of the school guidance curriculum in the classroom and through coordination of prevention education programs. The programme is developmental in nature and caters to the needs of students at various growth and developmental stages.

The IB Learner Profile attributes of caring, principled and open-mindedness can help students to stay safe on-line. Facebook, Instagram and Twitter may be the main social networks used to keep in touch with friends, but, worryingly, they are also the main sites used for cyber bullying and internet trolling. Over 50 per cent of young people have reported being bullied on-line or via their mobile phone. Cyber bullying is by no means a new issue, but with an increasing number of social media sites, and access to technology, it is one that is increasingly affecting young people around the world. Cyber bullying, also known as digital, or technology-assisted bullying, can be especially harmful or distressing due to several factors.

The three rules of the Internet

While parents and teachers have a duty of care when it comes to on-line safety, we have found that the best way to prevent cyber bullying is to educate young people and we continue to educate the students during our study skills and digital design lessons. It is important to remember that most children who are bullied on-line know their bullies, so it is a good idea to watch for issues at school and at home. In workshops held in school this year, three key points that parents and teachers should encourage children to remember when posting on-line include:

- ◆ Firstly, we must encourage children to be digitally savvy; they need to know how the technology works and that what they post can last a long time.
- ◆ Secondly, we must teach them digital-civility by asking: 'It this post/comment true? Is the post/comment necessary? Is this post/comment kind?'
- ◆ Thirdly, children must know how to be digitally safe and ensure they are not vulnerable when on-line. Parents must ensure that students use laptops and computers in a room that parents can access easily.

IB Learner Profile and Cyber Bullying

We continue to teach students how to think, not just what to think. They are less likely to go along with group mentality. The IB Learner Profile encourages students to question their behaviour and its impact on others: The concept of being a global citizen and being respectful to all is crucial and what all IB students exemplify. Additionally the IB Learner Profile attributes of caring, principled and open-mindedness help students become well-rounded, inclusive members of their communities.

"It is these values that can help prevent the rise and risks of cyber bullying, and it is these values that we must continue to teach."

Five warning signs of Cyber Bullying

- ◆ The student appears upset, withdrawn or angry after receiving emails, social network notifications or text messages.
- ◆ There may be a reluctance to leave the house or socialize at break time. Students seem withdrawn in class and in interaction with family and friends.
- ◆ Students may become more secretive about their on-line activities.
- ◆ Students may resort to blocking numbers, email addresses and social media accounts.
- ◆ Students suddenly delete their social networking profiles and accounts.

Jane Karumba, Guidance Counselor

MYP SERVICE AS ACTION

TRIP TO NYUMBA YA WAZEE KASARANI

MYP 3 students participated in a Service trip to Nyumba ya Wazee, Kasarani. Service and Action is a requirement of the MYP programme and some of learning experience outcomes include: increasing awareness of their strengths and areas for growth; undertaking new challenges, developing new skills or understanding; showing perseverance and commitment; working collaboratively with others; considering the ethical implications of their actions; engaging with issues of global importance and planning and initiating activities. Students had this to say:

“ While my compatriots were peeling onions, slashing grass and chopping carrots, I was engaged in a deep conversation with one of the residents of the home, Emilio. He told me about his life story. He taught me important life lessons about privilege and expressed a wish for me to do good in the world.” ~ Adil Oyango

“ I really enjoyed helping at ‘Nyumba ya Wazee’. It was an excellent learning experience. I found that it really helped me practise and learn some essential household tasks. I also practised my Kiswahili. I was very happy to have been of help.” ~ Malaika Hailey

“ Today was a great learning and helping experience. We completed many activities that helped the institution. There was a lot of collaboration with my peers. I was mostly involved with cleaning the corridors and pathways. I enjoyed learning about the history of the home. I collaborated with my peers and was able to acquire a deeper understanding in helping other people and stepped out of my comfort zone.” ~ Anastasia Kinyua

“ The trip was an eye-opener and a life exchanging experience. The various activities we did such as digging and weeding helped us give back to the community, Yes, it was difficult but we enjoyed as we saw the joy on the faces of the wazee.” ~Tracie Rabar

“ Old is Gold! Visiting the elderly at this home was one of the most touching, rewarding and inspiring trips I have taken. Personally, I got to associate myself with a lady who was mentally disabled. As I was taking her round, I noticed that her face would light up at the sight of young people appreciating her.” ~ Ramona Murugu

“ This trip was highly beneficial to both the elderly and us students. We were able to learn new skills; for example, we even had an opportunity to use a slasher to cut grass. I did a bit of digging which was laborious, washed utensils and tidied up after the wazee had had their lunch.” ~ Ananya Dave



MYP 3 Students carrying out various activities during their visit to Nyumba ya Wazee..

FOCUS ON CAREERS

“I am honored to be the recipient of the 2017 International Leader of Tomorrow (ILOT) Award from the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver, Canada. The award recognizes academic achievement, community service and outstanding leadership in school and around the community. The award covers 100% of my tuition costs at UBC including all living expenses and an annual round trip airfare. The application process for universities was tedious. One small mistake could have resulted in disqualification. The advice I would give to students applying for leadership scholarships is to start the application process early, follow guidelines stipulated by the Careers Counselor, be organized and manage your time well. One must be a balanced student who strives to do well academically, takes part in extra-curricular activities and serves the community.

Universities look for committed students who show consistency and commitment in anything they do. The application form must reflect your unique character and display the value you may add to campus life as a student. I will forever be grateful to the leadership team, the Careers Counselor, and my referees for their guidance throughout my application process and to all the teachers who supported me during my two years in the IB DP programme. “



Inaara Peermohamed IB DP2 student -Receiver of the ILOT Award for 2018 entry from University of British Columbia

A number of students who have applied to UBC may be entitled to the Outstanding International Scholars Awards and the International Merit Entrance Scholarship Awards after the final exam grades are released. Charity Kabaya, a former student was successful in securing a scholarship at Duke University, after taking brief gap year after school. Nottingham University and University of East Anglia have offered merit scholarships to applicants who achieve distinctions in their final exams. We wish our candidates the best in their forthcoming exams and are confident that they will be successful in achieving their career goals.

Shaheen Darr, Careers Coordinator

FOCUS ON LIBRARY

The new Follet collection hit the shelves on 25th April: fantastic reads, mostly fiction with non-fiction. The official circulation of the new batch commenced on April 28, 2017.

Students have had a field day with the books: Borrow, return, and borrowing again! Some students come to just run their fingers through the neat line of books on the shelves and savour their smell. The circulation charging and discharging file is quickly becoming worn out, but we intend to automate the process by introducing Follet Destiny Library management software.

Just like exercising, reading boosts your self-esteem. It also substantively ups your verbal intelligence. Voracious readers are naturally fantastic interlocutors. And good listeners too! Listening is the hardest thing in the world by the way. Cultivate the skill and you have an edge. So grab a copy of your favourite title, watch less TV and read! You have no idea how cool that is.

We happen to have an awesome library committee: Njeri, Wambui and Saabira. They're transforming our library. Have you noticed those display cards? Well, there's more to come, they promise. They float terrific ideas as well, and give us feedback from you guys. Talk to them. Share your thoughts - candidly. This is our A team. We can glean lessons from their diligence and commitment, and sacrifice.

We managed to hold a DEAR session on 5th May which was a huge success and very well attended. Many thanks to our class tutors for making it possible. An elaborate book week is in the works though, and a whole lot of exciting activities. We've just started!

Cheers!

Antoney Luvinzu, Assistant Librarian



Gardening and cleaning by MYP 3 Students during their visit to Nyumba ya Wazee..

FOCUS ON FILM

The 58th national drama and film festival was held in Kisumu on the 8th to 16th of April this year and our school participated by submitting film entries in three main categories.

The first entry was in Advertisements category where we entered a chewing gum commercial dubbed “Don’t Breathe”. The film was produced by Ted Ogutu – MYP5, directed by Harshit Shah - MYP5 and featured Neville Odwori - MYP5 as the Cinematographer and Peter Isota - MYP5 as the editor. The film also featured Tracy Coelho as the lead actor. This ad activates people to consciously keep their breath fresh by chewing PK Fresh Mint. The ad was inspired by the 2016 thriller by the same title and also the 2016 short film “Run and Hide.” The second entry was “The Housewife” a 2016 short film written and directed by Margaret Ndung’u and featured Tracy Coelho and Peter Isota as lead actors. The film explores ‘silent violence’ in homes among married couples. Margaret uses amazing cinematography coupled with perfectly matching mise-en-scene to weave her plot. This film is a sound film implying that it uses sound to create meaning as it completely omits dialogue. In her role as the housewife, Tracy Coelho exhibits talent and skill and this saw her spotted by the festival judges and awarded as the 2nd runner –up Best Actor in a leading role. The third entry was a 2015 documentary dubbed “Skin Deep” directed and produced by Michelle Kamunyo IBDP 2. “Skin Deep” explores the culture of skin lightening among youths and adults in Nairobi who seek to improve their looks in an effort to improve their ‘beauty value’.

The documentary digs into factors that catalyzed this vice including pop culture, medical science, technology and also the social media. This documentary is a perfect blend of skill, research and talent and Michelle handled the subject with a lot of prowess. The cinematography is on point and the storyline is very engaging. The judges were very impressed by Michelle’s skill in film making and her documentary was honored with a total of five awards namely: Runner Up best Documentary Feature; 2nd Runner Up Best Producer, Best Cinematography; 2nd Runner Up Best Director; 2nd Runner Up Best Production Design and Runner Up Best Presentation. We congratulate all those who took part in this festival. All these films will be screened during the school’s annual Arts Day in July 2017.



Screen shots from Michelle’s documentary “Skin Deep”



Scenes from ‘don’t breath’ by MYP 5 students.



Scenes from “The Housewife”, by Margaret Ndung’u



Peter Ngugi, Film Teacher

FOCUS ON PHE

AKAN STUDENTS SHINE DURING KENYA SECONDARY SCHOOLS SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Kenya Secondary Schools Sports Association (KSSSA) National Games were held during Easter Week at State House Girls' High school, Nairobi School and at Aga Khan High School. Swimming was hosted at our sister school Aga Khan High School, Waiyaki Way. Eight students from our school had qualified and made it to the Nairobi Regional Swimming team with our very own Mr. Malik appointed as the Head Coach of the team. International swimmer who is also Aga Khan Academy swimming captain Emmanuel Ndonga was appointed as Nairobi Region team captain. Apart from Emmanuel, other swimmers from AKAN in the team include: Kemunto Ongera, Ibrahim Omar, Atuhaire Ambala, Kirunda Kunyiha, Aisha Nasser, Simran Rajabali and Maiyan Kamondo.

AKAN students were trained in the school swimming pool one week prior to the championships and the boys and girls didn't disappoint with Emmanuel Ndonga declared the best swimmer of the championships after scooping four Gold medals and one Silver medal. All our students qualified for the East Africa Secondary Schools Sports Association (EASSSA) to be held in August 2017 in Gulu, Uganda. The Nairobi Region was dominated by students from Aga Khan Academy who won the trophy for the best girls' team, best boys' team and best overall with former champion Mombasa coming a distance second in the boys' category with Central Region coming in second in the girls' category.



Aisha Nasser scooped 2nd Position in 100m breaststroke



Atuhaire Ambala scooped 1st position in 50m back stroke



Kemunto Ongera emerged 1st in 100m freestyle



Ibrahim Omar finished 3rd in 50m freestyle



Kirunda Kunyiha finished 2nd in 50m freestyle



Emmanuel Ndonga emerged the winner in 200m

Malik Mwabondo, Swimming Coach