



HIGHLIGHTS

- FOCUS ON IBDP
- FOCUS ON IB MYP
- PASTORAL CARE
- FOCUS ON CAREERS
- FOCUS ON LIBRARY
- FOCUS ON PHE

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER



Jerri-Lynn Hainstock

January is always a month that we associate with the word “assessment” as our MYP 5 and DP2 students complete their mock exams. This is, however, also a time that frames such assessment with the rest of the school engaging in Model United Nation, Service and Action, Creativity, Activity, and Service trips and projects. This year, our Class Parents’ Committee (CPC) decided to design a special event for all parents that would bring parents together at the beginning of a new term. The “Groove” was the result: a fun evening that saw parents and faculty dancing to music from that era. Needless to say, it was a wonderful evening and all were disappointed when the “Head Teacher” had to declare “Last Dance!” Often we associate “renewal” with the month of January and that is so applicable to the Senior School: We have renewed our connections with each other, revisited our commitments to achievement, volunteered for various service projects, and finally, “celebrated” with each other the true sense of community.

70'S GROOVE PARTY



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FOCUS ON IB DP— Maurice Mugalizi, DP Coordinator



Maurice Mugalizi

DP 2 - Swahili students

Twenty four Swahili students wrote their final examination in this subject in November 2016. Their results were released on 5th January 2017. I congratulate the students for their excellent performance. Specifically, nine students scored the maximum 7 points (Gathoni Kang'ethe, Sanaa Ludenyi, Lisa Mwangi, Ahmed Abdalla, Claire Balera, Hanan Bashir, Zeinab Farah, Andrew Ileri and Ayub Kandid). Eleven students scored 6 points each while the remaining four students scored 5 points each. The class mean for this group is 6.6 points. I would like to congratulate all the students and their families for this wonderful achievement. As well, I congratulate their teachers, Mr. Peter Wesonga and Ms. Juliet Kithinji for working collaboratively with the students. I wish to reiterate to the DP2 students work together as a team in order to attain the best results.

Mock examinations ended on Friday 27 January 2017. In these examinations all subject components were tested to give the students a real picture of what they can expect in the final examinations. The components include marks from their internal assessments and theory papers re: paper 1, paper 2 and or paper 3 in some subjects. The only components that are not included in mock examinations are extended essay and theory of knowledge. This is because the students are still working on their theory of knowledge essays. Revision is ongoing, highlighting key exam strategies to enable students achieve the best results in the final examinations. I appeal to parents to discourage absenteeism and late coming to school during this period. The students are left with very little time until the end of March for contact with their subject teachers. Kindly note the examinations commences on 28th April 2017. A final examinations timetable has been uploaded on Managebac for proper planning and revision.

DPI

The DP1 students went for the class trip to Maasai Mara. This being a CAS trip, students were engaged in various activities including learning some of the Maasai culture. The students are expected to write reflections regarding their experiential learning, highlighting the key learner profile (s) attribute and ATL skill each exhibited.

The extended essay writing process has commenced and students are expected to choose a topic from the respective subject and formulate a research question. It is important to note that procrastination will lead to disappointment, therefore I humbly request all students to adhere to the school stipulated deadlines.

I would like to encourage parents to read school policies which are available on Managebac to be familiar with the school procedures. As well, the school website has now been updated with current information. Kindly access it on <http://www.agakhanschools.org>. Lastly to all the parents, kindly if you wish to have a discussion with me, send an email to me in advance to agree on the appropriate time to meet as I have teaching assignments and or administrative planned meetings.



Tania Rehabilitation Center
Kiserian - Student
Leadership Project

IBDP 2 students involved:
Fiya, Ruhee, Raeesa, Sahil,
Sachin, Gathoni, Anoushka
B, Anoushka K, Azaan



Maurice Mugalizi, IBDP Coordinator

FOCUS ON IB MYP - MYP DEPUTY HEAD



Roma Bhargava

Walking down the memory lane.....

Coming back to the Academy after 4 years has been a nostalgic experience. There have been several changes in past few years but one thing which has remained unchanged is the positive environment and the high standards set by both students and teachers. In this short span of time I have participated in several school events and be it spirit week organized by the Prefect body or the Mother Language day! The spirit of collaboration and team work is evident in all. The Academy truly represents the IB philosophy which is student centric and focuses on developing the whole child. As I dwell on the proactive changes in MYP, I see how well our teaching staff has innovatively explored new technologies to make learning more interesting, fun and effective. It is a team that has come together well, working collaboratively to implement the IB programme in its very essence. As our IB graduates move close to the end of their journey at the Academy message to them is that, "Keep your head and your heart going in the right direction and you will not have to worry about your feet"...if you want to climb you have to grab the branches and not the blossoms.

To the MYP students" tomorrow is another day with fresh hope and a new chance" so give it your best shot today. And finally Kudos! to the team at Academy for their commitment and zeal as we prepare for the forthcoming evaluation visit in March.

Roma Bhargava, Deputy Head MYP

FOCUS ON ASSISTANT IB MYP COORDINATOR



Samuel Musili

The second term at the Academy began on a high note. MYP 5 students began their mock exams on the 16th January and completed them on the 27th. I am glad to report that the exams went well. The students received their report cards on 6th after which we had a Parents/Student/Teacher Conference on the 8th. Part of the requirements for conference was target setting for the final examinations. My appeal to the parents of MYP 5 candidates is that you will find time to compare your child's performance to the targets jointly set and accord them the necessary support needed in realizing the set targets. Napoleon Hill once said, "The starting point of all achievement is desire". This is the time to urge students to take note of the areas in which they may not be excelling and to put their best foot forward. Meaningful team work is to be encouraged, considering that unity is strength. Registration for the final examinations is complete. I thank the parents for your support in meeting the timeline for paying for registration. Please check with your son /daughter what subjects they have registered for as well as determine when their May / June Examinations finish. The IGCSE timetable has already been posted on ManageBac.

Needless to say, the 2017 cohort is a highly promising lot and I am glad to be working with the students. The molding of MYP 4 students is work in progress and even though a few of them seem to be taking a little longer to realize the expectations for their grade, we are firm with them and relentlessly continue to shape them.



The Senior Leadership Team were also present to support the Parent's social event dubbed Back to School Groove Party..

Samuel Musili, Assistant MYP Coordinator

PASTORAL CARE DESK

ANNUAL SCHOOL TRIPS 2017

During the week beginning 16th January 2017, MYP 1—MYP 4 students' embarked on days of fun filled yet "Classroom without Walls" experiences. The MYP 1 trip to Elementaita, MYP 2 to Naro Moru, MYP 3 to Amboseli and MYP 4 to Tsavo.

These experiences are developed through the student's use of the ATL Skills and observed as the students develop the attributes of the Learner profile. IB students are always on the lookout of how to impact positively the lives of others and the environment.

Through Service and Action in the MYP, the students are always able to make connections between what is learnt in the classroom and what they encounter outside.



In tune with the environment. MYP 4 students took part in planting trees...

Interacting with the community



The students were exposed to challenging activities including British Bulldog, Water Challenges, beadwork, "akala making" planting trees, milking cows. Some students had an opportunity to learn how to use cow dung to preserve fire and how to preserve meat when there is no fridge. The students later showed their caring attributes by donating foodstuff, clothes and stationery to the communities. MYP 3 and 4 students had a great opportunity to interact with the Maasai community and learn their culture. They were also quite lucky to go for game drives in their respective locations and had a chance to view animals in their natural environments. The students learnt new skills and showed commitment and perseverance in the activities they were involved in. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for supporting us with the donations which went a long way to create an impact on the lives of others.

Karen Amolo, Service and Action Coordinator



Donations go a long way



A walk to Lake Chala

PASTORAL CARE DESK

ANNUAL SCHOOL TRIPS 2017 - MYP 3 trip to Amboseli

Set in 200 acres of private land, and with a rustic charm all of its own, the lodge nestles in the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro which, at almost six thousand metres, is Africa's highest and most famous snowcapped mountain. It was this region of Kenya that inspired our teachers' unforgettable stories and their choice of the Amboseli. All forms of wildlife still abound in this wilderness which continues all the way to the Amboseli National Park, an easy twenty minute drive away from the lodge. While the park conserves over six hundred breeding species of birds as well a host of rare and wonderful wildlife, this is also home to the Maasai people, perhaps the world's most renowned African tribe. What is a manyatta? A manyatta is an East African Maasai or Samburu settlement or compound, often temporary, established by a family or clan, or as an encampment of young warriors. To most of the world, however, "a manyatta" is just a small, little house in the desert with one bedroom. Those people are wrong. When we travelled to Amboseli we had the same mind set as everyone: a tiny little house with one bedroom in the desert, but we had underestimated the Maasai and the unique way of life. Even though they live in such small houses they support each other and show the true meaning of happiness.

The interview

Describe your adventure...

"It was a thrilling adventure," says Anastasia. "It was a welcoming environment both to us as the students and them as the hosts."

What did you enjoy most about the journey to Amboseli?

The breathtaking surroundings and that included the vast land, the laid-back people that you see every day, the view of the sensational Mt. Kilimanjaro from any direction you turn and the Maasai culture with their welcoming open hands.

What did you find most interesting about the Maasai culture?

Probably the everyday activities that included chores like fetching water from very far distances, making their own houses out of cow dung and a variation of different types of wood and bead making, for the women, to help them earn money and the coolest thing, the way they made fire without using matchsticks.

What did you enjoy most about the service as action?

What I enjoyed most about the action and service was giving them the donations that we prepared for them and seeing the smiles on their faces after we spent time with them and provided them with the donations we had. It was a nice getaway from the city where I was able to open my mind to the surroundings and different people from what I see every day, truly seeing life in a whole different perspective.



They shared



Caring for the environment



MYP 3 students giving back to the community...



Good communicators..



Time to relax and reflect on the day...

Akinyi Okero, Neya Parmar and Anastasia Kinyua, MYP 3

PASTORAL CARE DESK

ANNUAL SCHOOL TRIPS 2017 - IBDP 1 TRIP TO MAASAI MARA

The IB 1 Diploma students decided that we would finish the work that the DP2s had started, painting the two classrooms at Santen primary school. We also decided to carry donations for the pupils and the community they were going to visit. We were able to come together and plan in a collaborative manner how to collect supplies that were needed. By Tuesday, the 17th of January 2017, we were all set to leave for the trip. The journey was long but enjoyable. When we arrived, we were received with a warm welcome from the Head Mistress, and an even warmer welcome from the children who performed music and danced for us. We were then split into two groups; some painted and some played with the children. The group that chose to paint were very hard working. It was also a new challenge for us because most of us have only painted as a hobby; we had never painted actual rooms before. This challenge helped us learn many new techniques and skills related to painting and we realized that it is not as easy as it seems. The children had prepared a wonderful performance for us, so they presented a small dance; we gave them the juice, biscuits and the stationery. The smiles and the excitement on their faces made us feel like we had accomplished something valuable. It made us feel that we had a positive impact on their lives, no matter how small. Once in the village we were also welcomed with open arms. There was a great deal that we learned about the Maasai community. They started by telling the history of their tribe and what they did to make them unique from other tribes, like cutting their ears and making them longer. They showed the interiors of their manyatas, telling how and what they use to construct them. The next activity was how they made fire. Many of the students also attempted to try it, which was a new challenge for them. We saw the beautiful bead work that they had made and some of the students bought them as souvenirs.

The Mara is a truly a beautiful peaceful place, full of a vast variety of wildlife as well as Maasai communities that live away from the chaos and pollution of cities. It's amazing how the Maasai live under incredibly harsh conditions and are happy. They laughed together, danced together, sang together. This helped us students recognise the power of unity. The people didn't have the luxuries such as phones, or computers, no lavish meals or expensive clothes. What they did have was each other. And that was clearly enough to make the students happy. We learned how planning, communication and collaboration with our peers is very helpful even if we have very little time and since we succeeded, we became good communicators. In the school that we went to, one could see the caring characteristic of the DP1s from ensuring that the students had good classrooms to study in to comforting the children who were crying. Everyone had an open-mind, as they played with the children, despite the culture and language, we opened our minds to receive cultures that were different from ours. We were inquirers, asking questions and getting to know why the Maasai do things in a certain way. The DP1s are risk takers when they slept in total darkness, listened to animals laugh or spied a pair of eyes watching, them only to realize in the morning that they were gazelles!



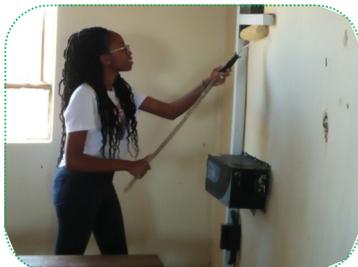
Below and Above: IBDP 1 students painting the classrooms...



The floor was also fixed..



They interacted with the community through dance..



The students interacted with the pupils from Santen Primary School..



FOCUS ON SPIRIT WEEK



Barni Warsame, IBDP 2



MYP 2 students showing of their attires during the Mad Hatter Monday Tamera, Shiro , Makalya and Aisha



Above: Jason and Anoushka, IBDP 2; Vyana, Qahira, Kashvi & Afreen, MYP 3 students.



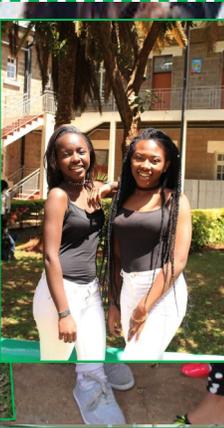
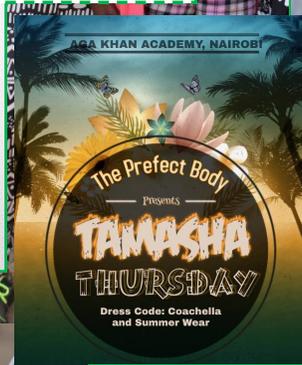
Below: Jihan, Rhea, Isabella & Raquel

THE PERFECT BODY PRESENTS:

Sahil Doshi, IBDP 2



WANNA BE WEDNESDAY



...Dress favourite

Beryl Nyamemba, showing off Tamasha Thursday...Below: Makalya, Nandi and Saadiyah



IBDP 2 students during the mad hatter Monday...

PASTORAL CARE DESK

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELOR' S CORNER



The International Baccalaureate offers well sequenced, rigorous and highly regarded frameworks for education; at our school these ideals are built on a firm commitment to “develop internationally minded people, who recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world” (IBO, 2007). It is such ideals and aspirations that set the tone for all our study skills lessons. We continue to work together in partnership with the families and community at large to promote the development of each student's personal, social, and academic potential.

Our main goal of counseling is to take a proactive and preventative approach when possible, and also to work with students to resolve current issues that impact personal growth and achievement. Through a comprehensive counseling program that is developmentally appropriate, counselors assist all students in realizing their abilities, interests, and goals as they transition through the educational process to become successful members of society. This term we have continued to seek to meet the ideals and mission statement of the International Baccalaureate by continuing to support the ongoing development of the Learner Profile in all our students. Families will be more than familiar with this vocabulary, with students often mentioning how 'principled' or 'open-minded' they have been, or how they are a 'thinker' or an 'inquirer'. We continue to endeavor to live out the attributes of the Learner Profile in the classroom, on the sporting field, in the wider community and, importantly, even when no one is watching! For all of us this requires practice, and for our students it requires conscious, well-planned learning experiences that allow for the Learner Profile attributes to be identified and developed.

This month we have seen all our learners push themselves to be risk-takers, caring and reflective, participating in the trips and class activities with courage and commitment. Similarly, our students have been encouraged to be communicators, with all Students, urged to creatively reflect on their trips during our study skills lessons. On the retreat held last term, the IBDP2 and MYP5 focused on the importance of being balanced, exercising their minds, bodies and souls with meditation and mindfulness as part of their stress management strategies. Exploring concepts, ideas and issues of local and global significance, MYP 3 and 4 students have acted as knowledgeable individuals, exploring different decision making, problem solving and goal setting skills with objectivity and care.

This term we hope to continue to host the parents in various workshops that delve deep into the issue of personal, social and Academic development. Last term we successfully hosted the MYP 1,2,3,4 and The IBDP 1 parents. The workshops encourage the input of parents/guardians and provide support for parents/guardians regarding each child's educational development. The workshops increase opportunities for parent and school counselor interaction. Working with parents in the group workshops allowed us to continue to empower parents with skills and strategies to help with their child's academic and social/emotional and personal development, and involve them in the learning process.

Peer mentors

This term peer mentors continue their journey of learning and developing transferable skills that will help them during their time at school and beyond. While peer mentoring can provide valuable support for students at critical points in their student life, it offers a host of other benefits for both mentor and mentee. The peer mentors have gained practical advice, encouragement and support from our sessions. They have learnt from the experiences of others and become more empowered to make decisions. Through the group activities, they develop communication, study and personal skills and explore strategies for dealing with both personal and academic issues.

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams”. Eleanor Roosevelt
Read more at: https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/e/eleanor_roosevelt.html

Jane Karumba, Guidance Counselor

FOCUS ON CAREERS

IB Diploma students started off the new year in a flurry of application submission activity to ensure that the February deadline stipulated by most universities in Canada and the US is met. MYP and IBDP students are in the process of completing the careers education modules scheduled for Term 2. The work experience placements that MYP 4 and IB1 students were engaged in during the December vacation were successful. We would like to urge parents to take an active interest in the careers related activities that students participate in at school, by holding regular conversations based on reflections filed in their careers portfolios. A number of international universities will be visiting our campus for presentations in February and March. We would like to appeal to all parents to render voluntary services for our Annual Careers Day Event scheduled for 24th March 2017. The theme for this year is "Innovation and Skills". We intend to highlight expertise in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics and Vocational Training and would appreciate suggestions by the entire school fraternity.

Shaheen Darr, Careers Coordinator

FOCUS ON LIBRARY



We in the library are committed to establishing it as a vibrant learner friendly resource center. We are looking to foster an active reading culture by availing relevant learning resources – working closely with the teachers - and promoting exciting activities to this end. We'll give the Book Club some vim and color.

We will host celebrity writers and hold regular literary colloquies in conjunction with Story Moja guys sometimes with a coffee house. We'll keep you abreast with enchanting reads in the market. It'll be cool. All we need is your co-operation; maintain silence and be responsive, Deal?

REVIEW: High School Hacks, Author: Brianna Smrke Price: \$20 Publisher: John Catt Educational Limited

Brianna Smrke attained a perfect score of 45 for her IB Diploma. It's a feat achieved by less than 1% of IB students worldwide. And she's banged out a book! A book with a fancy title - *High School Hacks* – that meticulously unpacks the tactics and strategies that worked for her. She lays it all bear. And beautifully so. First off she throws in a caveat; "This book is not an instructional manual on how to score 7s in all of your IB exams." This book is about changing your frame of mind and habits for the greater good. For the life yonder. It's about understanding and optimizing your whole self; your brain, your relationships, your body. Brianna not only dissects strategies that could help nudge your academic performance forward, but also floats tips on personal improvement. *High School Hacks* is beautifully written – for a girl her age – a solid testimony of the heights to which IB can make one scale. Her insights, her smarts, her clarity of thought tell a story of a well-adjusted individual. There's a place she quips; "seek out opportunities and make the most of those opportunities to grow as a person and to change the world for the better. Instead of taking the escalator, take the stairs. It will be harder, but you will see and do much more."

She demonstrates depth in thought and certain sleekness in language: "Don't put the fate of your learning in someone else's hand. Take charge." Her English is crisp. As the cliché goes, she has a way with words. I love her turn of phrase. She uses such words as 'innocuous' {which I had to look up!} do you know what it means? Please get dictionary.

She is deep; The book is peppered with short, easy flowing, easy to read chapters and sketchy drawings at the beginning of every chapter. It is, however, not meant to be read from cover to cover like a mystery novel. It is like a recipe book. Sample out chapters. Try them out. There is this profound statement she said about rules: "Make them work for you!" Always find some sort of middle ground between your preferences and the rules. If you have a challenge with doing citations, this book shows you how because Brianna provides citations after almost every chapter. What's more, she tells, you to "always write it down while studying", "make sense of the bigger picture of a concept before narrowing to the nitty gritty, make reading cool by applying humor – it enhances memory".

I highly recommend that you grab a copy, and most importantly, apply the insights therein. We have 5 copies in the Library that can be signed out by students.

Antoney Luvizu, Library Assistant

FOCUS ON PHE

Sports in perspective

U 15 Girls Soccer

The U5 girls' team below in a warm up session just before they took on Brookhouse. Aga Khan won 1-0



U 13 Boys Basketball

The U13 boys basketball team in action against Oshwal. The boys demolished Oshwal 28-12



In the Braeburn soccer tournament our teams posted the following results Open girls soccer

- Aga Khan 1 Braeside 1
- Aga Khan 2 Peponi 0
- Aga Khan 1 Gems School 0
- Aga Khan 0 Brookhouse 1
- Aga Khan 2 Braeburn Gitanga 1

A section of the Open girls soccer in action during the Braeburn Garden Estate tournament



U15 boys soccer in action in the Braeburn Garden Estate tournament

U15 boys soccer – Braeburn Tournament

- Aga Khan 1 Greensted 0
- Aga Khan 2 Nairobi Academy 0
- Aga Khan 1 German School 2



Anthony Thairu, HOD Sports

FOCUS ON PHE

FOCUS ON MYP 1 OUTDOOR PURSUIT

The MYP 1 PHE outdoor pursuit was not a walk in the park. Although the MYP 1 students were excited and determined to take up the challenge, the weather was not welcoming as it was hot and dusty but the students managed to meet the expectations of the expedition.



We shall surely get there...



Students hike back to the camp...



MYP 1 students canvass about their next move...



A break is as good as a rest...



When the going got tough, it was prudent to seek help



Mr. Thairu below gives instructions to students before proceeding with the hike

Anthony Thairu, HOD Sports

FOCUS ON PHE

FOCUS ON MYP 4 OUTDOOR



Time to check out...



Navigation is not always easy...



Home away from home...



Meal times are always exciting!



Wake up early for morning exercises!

Anthony Thairu, HOD Sports

FOCUS ON PHE

SWIMMING GALA 2017

Inter - House gala swimming gala is an annual event which is held in the second term of every academic year. Each house (Simba, Kifaru, Ndovu and Chui) produces their best swimmers. This year's swimming gala was one of a kind with over 150 swimmers participating. The weather didn't disappoint at all; it was sunny yet cool which was perfect for the day's agenda. We saw some of the best swimmers in the country battle it out at Aga Khan pool for their House honors. International swimmers like Emmanuel, Atuhaire, Kemunto, Kirunda and Ibrahim Omar travelled immediately after the gala with Team Kenya for Africa Zone 4 CANA swimming championships in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.



Simran Rajabali U13 category...

Below: Water Polo



Wanjiku, Abigael and Eden, MYP 3 students..



One of the top swimmers in the country who is a member of Kenya national team, Kirunda Kunyiha



International Swimmer Emmanuel Ndonga representing the 16 years and over category

Below: Nigel Kobia representing the 14/15 category



The event started well with 100m individual medley girls being the first one on the card. It went on smoothly till break time when swimmers and officials took a health break. After the end four hours splash and rumble in the cold waters, the event came to an exiting end at exactly 12:25pm with Kifaru house emerging overall winners. Simran Rajabali was the best girl in under 13 category while Jabali Chemirmir was the best swimmer in the boys under 13 category. In the 14/15 girls category, Vivian Ouko topped while international swimmer Atuhaire Ambala was the best in the boys 14/15 category. In the 16 years and over category, seasoned swimmer, international Kemunto Ongera took the vitric trophy while another international and best swimmer in Kenya currently Emmanuel Ndonga starred in the same age group.



Teachers supporting the Kifaru team...



Nadine Odwori & Marcel Pefang represented the IBDP 2 class



Malik Mwabondo, Swim Coach