



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Focus on Prize Day
- Focus on DP
- Focus on MYP
- Counselors Desk
- Library Corner
- Focus on Rhino Cup Debate Challenge
- Focus on CAS
- Focus on Film
- Focus on PHE
- Focus on Sports Day

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER



Simon Otieno

The spirit of Prize Day is a spirit of celebration, a celebration of achievements and a celebration of excellence. The Prize day of October 6, brought to fore what our school is all about – Excellence. We all remember the more than welcome commitment to improve our facilities from the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Mahmoud Manji; about the moving life story of the Guest of Honour, Dr. Richard Ayah and the outstanding performances of our students that elicited a standing ovation. As we embark on the journey of excellence for this new academic year, focus turns on the school as we lay down the up scaled demands of creativity and diligence, that will create a positively competitive environment, in which our students can grow and thrive. Indeed, in the future determination of the prize winners will move towards a more IB friendly model. Gold will be awarded to students who score an average of 7, and Silver to those with an average of 6.

The hope is that this will steer the school community to the more holistic outlook encouraged in the IB; placing a predetermined bar that all students can aspire to, instead of awarding positions that could encourage negative competition. It is our hope that as the students moves a grade up and face new and varied challenges, the students will find this spirit more in tune with the collaborative model that we uphold in the IB. The pages ahead depict the energy and joy of the Prize Day; I hope that you find them both enjoyable and inspirational.

## PRIZE DAY 2017



Mr. Mahmoud Manji, Chairman AKES - EA, Mr. Apollo Gabazira, CEO AKES - EA, Dr. Richard Ayah, Guest Speaker, Mr. Simon Otieno, Head Teacher AKAN



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# PICTORIAL: PRIZE DAY



Mr. Gabazira presents a Gold certificate to Amaal Dawood MYP 5



Blessing DP 2 receiving her certificate from Mr. Manji



Njeri and Wambui Gichangi presenting a token of appreciation to the Guest Speaker



Mr. Otieno presenting a certificate of merit to Britney, MYP 3 and H/T commendation certificate to Insha, DP 2



Mr. Rupani presenting a medal to Unaiz, MYP 5



The parents came and left in style...



The performances of the day...

## FOCUS ON IB DP— Maurice Mugalizi, DP Coordinator



Maurice Mugalizi

### DP2

All the DP2 students have been registered for the final examinations in May 2018. The registration details were sent home for verification of candidates details. The exam fees schedule was posted on Managebac to parents. Parents are requested to note that the exam fees payment deadline is on or before 30 November 2017. All payments should be made in Kenya Shillings either by cheque or direct payment to the school account as indicated on the fees schedule document. I kindly request all to honor the payment deadline so that the money can be remitted to IB before school closes for the Christmas holidays. I wish to reiterate that as discussed during the meeting with DP2 parents on September 25, 2017, the registration status of some students will change from Diploma to Course based on their performance as stipulated in the academic policy and school admission letter. The parent (s) of the affected student (s) will be notified by the coordinator.

Parents are further informed to note that students with outstanding school fees will be de-registered if full fees are not paid on or before November 15, 2017. The affected parents will bear the burden to pay the higher registration fees by IB for late registration to re-register the student on the IB portal.

The students have by now done their Theory of Knowledge presentations and are now working on their essays. Apart from that, students are also expected to submit their final Extended Essays to the coordinator on or before November 30, 2017 without fail. No late submission will be accepted. In conclusion we encourage harnessing teamwork in all the candidates to enable them attain their best performance.

### DP1

I wish to thank all the parents who turned up for the first meeting with the coordinator on October 2, 2017. This was an information forum on the expectations of the Diploma Programme. I request that all parents, in future, should plan to attend such sessions so that we all receive the information at the same time. I wish also to inform all parents/guardians that my preferred mode of communication is through email. This is due to the fact that at times it is impossible to get me on phone as I do have teaching assignments and other administrative duties.

### MYP5 Parents Introduction to Diploma Programme

We are planning to have a session to introduce MYP 5 parents to the Diploma Programme on November 23, 2017 from 7:45am — 8:45 am when we resume from our mid-term break. This session is to prepare parents to make decisions for their children to either join the diploma programme or to pursue other alternative programmes.

Maurice Mugalizi, IBDP Coordinator



Dr. Richard Ayah Guest Speaker, presenting medals to parents of DP 2 alumni students



Mr. Gabazira, presents a Gold certificate to Inaara, DP 2

# FOCUS ON MYP— Samuel Musili, Assistant MYP Coordinator



Samuel Musili

*“People are not lazy. They simply have impotent goals- that is, goals that do not inspire them”* These are the words of Tony Robbins and they relate to us as a school community. It’s a new academic year and the setting of lofty goals is the talk in the Academy. Students, Parents and teachers alike have expectations for the academic year ahead. The end of term assessments for MYP 4 to DP 2 students is scheduled to take place between November. 20 - 23. I encourage parents to have a candid discussion with their sons / daughters regarding time management. The need for proper preparation cannot be over emphasized if academic excellence is to be achieved. We continue to count on your support for successful completion of the two terms ahead.

Finally, end of IGCSE course certificates for those who completed their examinations in May/ June 2017 will be out by the end of this month. The certificates will be ready for collection from school at any time during the school days.

Samuel Musili, Ass. MYP Coordinator



Alan and Brian playing the saxophone



Kashvi and Tazeen, DP 1 performing an Indian Dance



MC's of the day



Ms. Janet Munguti—Regional HR, and Ms. Peris Ndung'u, Business Analyst, AKES-EA



Mr. Simon Otieno, H/Teacher AKAN, giving his speech during Prize Day



Teachers enjoying the Prize Day ceremony



## GUIDANCE AND COUNSELOR'S DESK



This month we have continued to help all students in the areas of academic achievement, personal/social development and academic development, ensuring that 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 the study skills lessons. The lessons are comprehensive in scope, preventative in design and developmental in nature. They continue to focus on what all students, from MYP 1 - DP2, should know and understand including Approaches to Learning. The scope captures the four domain areas: Academic, Career, Personal/Social and emotional.

The program is developmental in Nature and recognizes that all children do not develop in a linear fashion according to a certain timetable, there is intentional overlapping among grade levels. The school counseling program reflects the progression of student development throughout the IB experience. It is understood that mastery of basic skills facilitates the mastery of higher-order skills in each area of development. We have continued to utilize a variety of strategies, activities, delivery methods and resources to promote the desired student development.

**This term the Study Skills lessons continue to cover a range of topics:**



A study skills session...



This term we will continue to host the parents' in various workshops that will continue to delve deep on the issue of personal, social and academic development. The workshops continue to encourage the input of parents/guardians and provide support for parents/guardians regarding each child's educational development. The workshops increase opportunities for parent, school counselor interaction. Working with parents in the group workshops allows 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. This month the IBDP 1 class were inspired begin reaching out to other students after watching the video "Take a seat make a friend", and other various discussions in class. The students explored diverse volunteer settings where students can make a difference in the lives of others and the community. They carried out surveys and questionnaires which they presented the findings. Through their reaching out initiative, they hope to encourage our students to use their talents and interests to bring joy to the lonely, preservation of the environment, and assistance with projects in their local community.

## LIBRARY CORNER

In the recent months, I had heard enough about the Story– Moja festival. Enough to whet my appetite, enough to get me sufficiently excited about the festival. The day of the festival arrived. The skies were blue the night before and jovial teachers. We had it all. All in all, the day found me with very high expectations. Now the long-awaited question was; Did the festival exceed my expectations. The simple answer, it did. The number of positive things about Story- moja are over a hundred. However, due to word count, I shall only expound on one or two. Firstly, the diverse artists the festival managed to gather for our learning and experience, was very impressive. There were actors, teachers, poets, writers and many more from all over the world with incredible prowess and experience in their respective fields.

Secondly, the fact that there were so many other schools gave us all the chance to interact with other students and talk about culture and literature. It was interesting to hear and see other students' reactions to different aspects of the event, especially the story- telling and workshops. What I loved most about the whole event was its comfortable atmosphere. It is easy to look as though you are comfortable in a certain environment, but it is a lot harder to feel comfortable. The entire location was a bee hive of activities filled with hustle and bustle. But the sort of hustle and bustle that lets you know that many people are benefiting from many things. I speak for my school mates when I state that we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. I found myself speaking vivaciously, because I was truly interested. I found myself learning things I never even thought existed. I found myself enjoying things I thought I was never passionate about. That was Story: Moja for me. That was Story: Moja for Aga Khan Academy.

Wambui Gichangi, MYP 4

## RHINO CUP DEBATE CHALLENGE

The eighth season of the Rhino Cup Debate Challenge started off on a good note. The challenge involves a group of eight schools namely, Brookhouse school, Braeside school, Nairobi Academy, Oshwal Academy Senior High School, Rusinga school, Premier academy, St.Andrews Turi and the Aga Khan Academy. The first round of the challenge pitted Aga Khan Academy against Oshwal Academy Senior high school. The motion stated that **'Live theatre has been replaced by digital entertainment'** with Aga Khan Academy opposing the motion. After a very heavily contested debate, Aga Khan Academy lost narrowly to Oshwal Academy. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our three main speakers, Michelle Chesire (DP1S), Peter Isota (DP1S) and Karen Bedoume (DP1S), for the effort, focus and dedication they portrayed in this first round. We also take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of **Musqaan Admani**, our substitute debater and **Kimberely Kandie** who co- chaired the debate. Our heartfelt appreciation also goes to the three students, **Michael Kimani, Nigel Maiyo and Lenah Simbauni**, who took the duty of researching and guiding the main speakers. The debate provided the students with the opportunity to showcase the IB learner profile by being **Risk-takers, Open-minded and Communicators**. They were also able to harness their ATLs by employing their **Communication, Collaboration, Research and Critical Thinking skills**.

Rose Odero, Debate Patron



MYP 2 students taking a pose during Sports Day...

## FOCUS ON CAS: Mt Longonot Climb

Mount Longonot climb with Kenya Society for the Blind was held on Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2017 from 8:00am to 3:00pm. T-shirts were provided for by the Kenya Society for the Blind (KSB) before the students embarked on the journey to Mt. Longonot (Rift Valley). On arrival, the students were divided into groups ready for the ascent; the climb was challenging but the breaks taken at intervals made it bearable. Most students climbed as a team extending a helping hand to others whenever needed. Endurance and perseverance were two qualities that emerged throughout the climb, enabling all the students to reach the summit. At the summit the students were welcomed by the beautiful scenery of the flora surrounding the crater.

After a few hours of rest which included a couple of scenic photo shoots, the group descended without any hitches. All the students were rewarded with the feelings of accomplishment and the knowledge that they had contributed in terms of service and activity to the Kenya Society for the blind.

CAS provides very vital experience for the DP students and is one of the three cores of the IB programme. This experience enriched the students' learner profile attributes of **Risk-taker**, **Caring** and **Open-minded**. The students also heightened their **Social** and **Self-management** skills.

Ms. Pauline Njenga, CAS Coordinator



Mr. Luvzinu and Ms. Lonah enjoying the tranquility



Mr. Timoteo, Ms. Pauline and Mr. Ndungu with the students just before the climb



Nigel exerts himself up the mountain...

Left: Peter giving a hand to William while Shabnum looks on. Right Millicent and Grace...Grace applies the use of a cane to climb up the mountain



Michelle and Tracy are relaxing after the climb  
Below: Suleiman goes down the mountain...



Students preparing before the climb...



# FOCUS ON CAS: Mt Longonot Climb



**DP 1 2017 CAS;  
Activity & Service  
Initiative at Mt.  
Longonot...**



## FOCUS ON FILM WORKSHOP

On Tuesday the October 17, film students attended a one day film workshop at the school aimed at motivating them to make films irrespective of the gear or resources they have at hand. The workshop was themed *'The best camera in the world is the one you have'* and was facilitated by a very able team from Mojo Productions comprising of Andrew Macharia (Director), Robert Safari (Editor), Murtaza Zainudin (Digital Imaging Technician) and Moses Muchiri (Director of Photography). The students were taken through theories that guide film making and film reading in the morning after which they were engaged in a practical film making process. They were tasked to make a fruit juice commercial targeting typical millennials in urban and peri-urban settings. The afternoon saw the young film makers screen the films (commercial) they had made earlier in the day and reflect on the overall experience. The directors of these films were also given an opportunity to talk about the film making process having been tasked with the overall creativity for their films. Overall the workshop was a total success thanks to the very resourceful facilitators from Mojo Production and the budding film makers. We plan to replicate the same in the near future.

Peter Ngugi, Film Teacher



Left: Hawi, MYP 4 composing a shot,  
Above: Tania directing her cast and crew

Sanika and crew editing their film

Alizen, Walter, Peter, Lenah & Sandra, DP 1, calibrating the DJI Ronin Stabilizer



Walter & Peter, DP 1 filming a tracking shot during the workshop

## FOCUS ON PHE

The season has started with a bang! For the first time the school has entered the under 15 girls basketball in the Kenya Association of Independent International Schools Sports Organization (KAISSO) league. So far the team has posted mixed results; going down to French School 7-8 in their opening match. They have since found the winning formula as they humbled Peponi 22-18. Braeburn Garden Estate was no match either as the girls humiliated the home team 24-16.

### U15 girls' basketball team in action



The U15 girls' basketball team receiving silver medals from Mr. Otieno, Head teacher. The team finished second in the IPSSA basketball tournament held at Aga Khan Academy, Nairobi.



### U13 & 15 girls' rounders team



U13 girls' rounders team receiving their silver medals after taking second position in the IPSSA rounders tournament held at Oshwal sports center. A total of eight schools participated in the tournament.

#### U15 girls' rounders

The girls have posted the results as follows:

- AKAN 5.5 Braeburn Gitanga Road 8.5
- AKAN 10.5 Oshwal 15
- AKAN 13 Nairobi Academy 8
- AKAN 13 Peponi 13
- AKAN 19.5 Braeburn Imani 18

## FOCUS ON PHE

### U17 boys' football

The U17 boys football team have already made their intentions clear. So far the team has played three matches with very impressive results. The opening match was against Rosslyn Academy. Rosslyn had no say before the team of champions as they succumbed 6-1. Braeburn Gitanga road held the champions 1-1. In their third match against St. Christophers, it was a repeat of their first match as they hammered the home team 6-1.

U17 boys' football team in action against St. Christopher. The team won 6-1



### U13 and U15 boys' football teams

The U13 boys soccer have not dropped a point having won their opening match convincingly. They humbled St Austin 5-1, before being held by Samaj to a barren draw.

The U15 boys are yet to discover their winning formula. The boys to Oshwal 2-1, before being held to a draw by Brookhouse 2-2.

## Physical and Health Education Outdoor Pursuit

The PHE outdoor pursuit has started with the MYP 5 and MYP 4 taking turns to hike the Lukenya hills. Below are the pictures of what happens while in the wild.



MYP 5 students before the start of the hike

# FOCUS ON PHE

## Physical and Health Education Outdoor Pursuit



It is time to interact with nature



A well deserved rest after a long hike



Home away from home.....

# FOCUS ON PHE

## Physical and Health Education Outdoor Pursuit MYP 4



Morning exercises prepare the students for the hike...



Interacting with Nature...

It is time to reflect! What a long day it was...



# FOCUS ON SPORTS DAY



Cool, calm and Collected...What a day!



Take off, Sprint, accelerate!



Left: Mental strength requires no partner, Right: Lets play catch up



A champions finish!



All I do is start the dream team



The teachers also showed what they are made of



Sports knows no gender!



Smile...Powerful 5 letter word



The look you have when your team is winning



It's show time!

Their smiles tells it all. It was indeed a good day



We got this...Keep on pulling



We just got the Mascot



The cheering squad does what they had rehearsed

Great Day! Great Memories!



It was indeed a dusty affair



On your marks, set go!!



Mr. Rogers coming in handy with his first aid skills



THE AGA KHAN ACADEMY, NAIROBI

