

“What students know is no longer the most important measure of the quality of education. The true test is the ability to engage with what they do not know, and to work out a solution.”

- His Highness the Aga Khan at the opening the Aga Khan School in Osh, Kyrgyz Republic in 2002

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OSH, KYRGYZ REPUBLIC



Aga Khan School, Osh

Aga Khan Education Service, Kyrgyz Republic

Fall

2018

www.agakhanschool.org

English and Math Upgrading at AKS

AKS has recently introduced a number of strategies to upgrade English and Mathematics teaching and learning

The current English Language Programme at AKS is being upgraded to meet international standards. The upgrading process focuses on developing communications skills and preparing students for future academic and professional success. This programme is already being implemented in grades 10 and 11 English medium classes. It provides students and faculty with exposure to modern and classical literature, native English speakers, and university lectures, among others. Over time, the programme will expand to lower grades across all mediums. Furthermore, all faculty and staff are engaging in professional



UK-based math teachers and math teachers from AKS in Khorog spent 6 days together developing AKES teachers' mathematics pedagogy skills

development to upgrade their English language abilities. We will also be receiving new English language books that compliment our curriculum and aim to deepen our students' critical thinking skills and broaden their cultural awareness.

Simultaneously, AKS's mathematics programme is also being upgraded across all mediums. It focuses on pedagogy and curriculum development, and aims to engage students across abilities and learning styles while creating more practical and applicable lessons. AKS teachers were invited to attend a weeklong training in Khorog where UK-based mathematics professionals led sessions that enhanced math pedagogy skills.

To achieve these aims, AKS has recruited the assistance of two international specialists.

First, Naseem Jaffar, a mathematics and curriculum specialist and consultant from the USA who also provides advice and training to the University of Central Asia (UCA), and second, William Phillips, an English language and curriculum specialist from Ireland. They will work to build and implement the courses in partnership with Cambridge University in the UK and the UCA.

These efforts will continue to ensure that we deliver the highest quality teaching and that our students are prepared for their future endeavours.



12:1

Student to teacher ratio

14,900

Books and other materials in AKS' library

100%

Tertiary education institutions admissions rate upon graduation

Welcome



Dear students, parents, teachers and staff of the Aga Khan School, Osh - welcome! It is with pleasure that I welcome you into the new 2018-2019 school year. As a community, we have some important goals to realize. Over the next three years, we aim to accomplish a series of tasks that will improve the quality of education that we offer our students across all subject areas. In setting higher standards for ourselves, we aim to achieve the best results in

the country. To accomplish this, I will be counting on parents, students and staff so that together we can achieve our full potential. As the head of this school, I would like to note that everything is prepared for conducting classes. Class kits, staff, and resources are ready for the year including the installation of high-speed internet. We look forward to a productive year of learning, creativity, and lots of fun!

New Year, New Faces

As we settle into a new school year, we are pleased to welcome the following staff to the AKS team in their new roles:

Shaimkulova Sayra - Chemistry Teacher

Mrs. Sayra has taught chemistry for over 32 years. She was awarded the Certificate of Merit by Osh City Council in 2009 for her excellent achievements over the years.

Toltoeva Gulbarchyn - Mathematics Teacher

Mrs. Gulbarchyn studied Math and IT at the Osh State University from 1997 to 2006. Mrs. Gulbarchyn looks forward to contributing to AKS.

Sadykova Ziyoda - Secretary

Ms. Ziyoda has a background in Translation and American studies, and was the highest ranking English Language Olympiad participant amongst regional universities.

Akimbaev Nursultan - Driver

Mr. Nursultan is a part-time student at Osh University studying History and Law. He has five years of experience as a driver.

Meet Our Students' Council

Whether it is a ceremony, a celebration, or any other kind of special project or event hosted at AKS, you are likely to find the members of our Students' Council (or Active Student Leadership Group) behind the scenes. Composed of six students, this group aims to enhance student life and to build a conscious community of young people.

"I want to make our school more colourful," said Kyzhibek Zhonibekova, the current Vice President of the group and a grade 11 student. "Also, I want to leave something behind that will make learning here better for the next students."

One of their recent initiatives includes gathering used plastic bottles and scrap paper and selling them to a recycling company. They also created an entrepreneurship competition between classes. In both instances, the profits were invested in improving their school community spaces.



At AKS, we take pride in the initiative that our students take to guide and shape their educational experiences, and work to nurture their leadership.

Students' Council Members: (from left to right) Ministers of Education - Milana Gultugina and Malika Mukhtar Kyzy, President - Eldar Azamatov, Vice President - Kyzhibek Zhonibekova, Member - Kubanych Aichurek

Outreach Initiatives

AKS is committed to supporting education across the Kyrgyz Republic. Through the Learning Support Programme (LSP), coordinated by Natalya Deryabkina, we provide resources and professional development opportunities for teachers in mathematics, English Language learning and IT in the Naryn Oblast districts. The participating teachers then lead extra classes for students who participate in Olympiads, essay contests, research work, and other educational opportunities.

This year, the LSP is supporting 40 teachers and 680 students across 24 schools. Through the LSP, we hope to be able to share our knowledge and resources for the benefit of everyone.



Grade 5 Adaptation Assessments

08

Our Heads of Departments, Trainers, and Deputy Directors observed our grade 5 students and are working to determine how we can ensure their smooth transition into our school community.

Grade 5 Students' Recognition

19

As a welcome to our newest students, we hosted a celebratory concert where students received AKS badges. Parents were invited to attend. The ceremony was held during the first block of classes.



Family Holiday Concert

Each grade prepared a small celebration during which they introduced their families to each other. We are building our school community together!

2

Parents' Meeting

Parents were invited to join us after classes to learn about new updates, ongoing work, and other information on our students' achievements and work. These meetings took place one-on-one with homeroom and subject teachers. Deputy Directors were also available.

12-16

Guten Tag!



On October 24, 2018, AKS received a visit from the German Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic, Her Excellency Monika Iwersen. Our students welcomed her with songs, a dance, and a tour of the school in German. She also distributed certificates of achievement to students who had passed their German exams. The German Embassy has been supporting German Language learning at AKS for over 10 years, providing an incredible asset to students who can then study, work, and travel to German-speaking countries. The delegation reaffirmed its interest in supporting German Language learning at AKS.

Facility Updates

With the new academic year underway, we want to take the time to provide you with an update on some changes to our facilities that will enhance student learning and growth.

First, our cafeteria is equipped with a new heating system. As well, our corridors, classrooms, gymnasium, and cafeteria have all been repainted. The third floor classrooms have a new roof that will ensure better insulation as we near the winter months.

Additionally, our physics lab was renovated with new flooring and furniture, and new equipment is on the way. We hope that these exciting new changes will contribute to our students' success.



Students learning in the improved and newly outfitted Physics Lab.

Summer Programmes for Teachers

While many of our students were relaxing during their summer break, many of our teachers were busy learning and creating.

AKES hosted six volunteers from Canada who led a variety of LEGO® Robotics programmes that explored simple machines and programming among others. Six AKS teachers attended the sessions held in Khorog, Tajikistan. This team of teachers is now guiding AKS' Robotics Club participants through the LEGO® Aqua Adventure programme.

Moreover, four AKS mathematics teachers participated in the Professional Teacher Collaboration Project, held in Khorog. Four UK-based math teachers led training sessions on pedagogical strategies that aimed to improve our math teaching.

As well, all of our teachers across all subjects underwent training on the new national curriculum. The training was conducted by trainers from Osh State University and it familiarized teachers with the new standards set by the Ministry of Education.



Into the Future...

AKS will Launch the First Ever Maker's Space Programme in Osh

Over the summer, the Aga Khan Education Service, Kyrgyz Republic worked with Stanford University engineering students to build an experiential programme that highlighted STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) subjects. This project-based programme encourages participants to think creatively. Students will be exposed to virtual reality technology, 3-D printing, solar energy harvesting, circuit-building, and much more. The programme will focus on encouraging students to think critically and creatively about what they can make that will improve the quality of life in their communities.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Oct. 1 - Elderly People Day (No School)

Oct. 25-31 - Shakeout Drill

Nov. 1-2 - Traffic Security Training

Nov. 2 - School Cleaning Day

Nov. 5-16 - Documentation Review (Grades 9 & 11)

Nov. 5-12 - Fall Holiday (No School)

Dec. 3 - AIDs Prevention Day

Dec. 31-Jan. 11 - Winter Holiday (No School)

Learning Beyond the Classroom

2018-19 Club Offerings

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Chinese Club | Geography Club |
| Enjoy English Club | Speaking Club |
| English Reading Club | Crafts Club |
| German Club | Balloon Club |
| Debate Club | Make It Club |
| | 3-D Club |
| | Math Club |
| | Robotics Club* |
| | Kyrgyz Folklore Club |
| | Table Tennis* |
| | Kung Fu* |



**these clubs have a small fee that sustains resource procurement, etc.*

We know that the best learning happens when it is not only heard and seen, but also experienced. Therefore, in addition to our curriculum, we offer co-curricular clubs and activities that compliment and enhance our students' learning.

Key Highlights Beyond the Classroom:

Last year, our AKS Debate Club students won against debate teams from local universities in Osh.

The KVN team "Voice of Childhood" were finalists in the Regional KVN League.



04

Special Needs Day

Students visited and volunteered with differently abled folks in their community. Students developed their sense of empathy and civic responsibility. The Students' Council also coordinated the donation of funds that they raised throughout the school year.

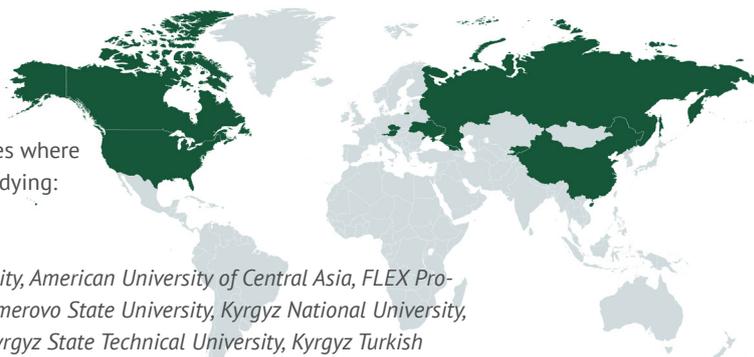
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New Year's Celebrations

For our New Year's Celebration, each grade will prepare their own celebratory programme, that will be hosted in the canteen. Parents are welcome to attend the festivities.

Where Are They Now?

Universities and programmes where last year's graduates are studying:



Ala-Too International University, American University of Central Asia, FLEX Programme, Humber College, Kemerovo State University, Kyrgyz National University, Kyrgyz State Law Academy, Kyrgyz State Technical University, Kyrgyz Turkish Manas University, Kyrgyz-Russian Slavic University, Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Osh State University, Plekhanov Russian University of Economics, Sasov State University, Tbilisi State Medical University, University of Vienna, and others.

We are incredibly proud to announce that all 44 of our graduates were accepted into post-secondary institutions and we wish our graduates all the best in their future endeavours.

Featured Work



Artwork by Chong Hivon, Grade 8



AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

AKES is an agency of Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) which is a network of 10 private, secular development agencies active in 30 countries working to improve quality of life of people.

www.akdn.org

