



Friday, 1st September 2017

Dear Parents,

These first two weeks of the academic year in the Junior School have flown by! At the start of the year we welcomed the students back to school, along with 38 Year 1 and 12 new students from Year 2 to Year 5.

It was pleasing to see so many parents at the Parent Information Evening on Thursday 24th August, and I hope you found it beneficial in terms of informing you about the overview of your child's academic programme for the year and the daily and weekly class routines. For those of you who were not able to attend, you may contact your child's class teacher for any information. Year Level curriculum documents and the class timetable were emailed out to parents, on Wednesday this week.

Student Assessments

The beginning of a new school year is an ideal time to assess students and get to know their strengths and areas they need improvement. Other than the internal class assessments we do, we also subscribe to InCAS for external assessments, from Durham University's Centre for Evaluation and Monitoring (CEM) <http://www.cem.org/about-us>. The InCAS primary assessment is a computer-adaptive assessment designed to help teachers identify each individual's profile, which helps them in planning teaching and learning. Each module takes approximately 20 minutes to complete and includes: Reading, Spelling, Math and Mental Arithmetic. For more information you can go to the link <http://www.cem.org/incas>. The CEM data is only for the school's internal use.

We will be conducting CEM tests for the Junior School from 4th September to 19th September 2017. Every class will do the assessment for 2 consecutive days in one or two lessons each day.

The Enrichment Programme

The Enrichment Programme begins on Monday 4th September for Years 2 to 5 students. Further information has been attached with this newsletter. We also kindly request that students are picked up from school promptly, at the end of the day.



Kenya Music Festival – 2017

The Academy participated in the 91st Edition of the Kenya Music Festival in June and July 2017, whose theme year was, *Enhancing National Unity, Cohesion and Integration through the Kenya Music Festival*. Twenty-Five students from Year 1 to Diploma 1 represented the Academy in the finals at Masinde Muliro University in Kakamega, winning 17 top three placing's, comprising of eight 1st, two 2nd and seven 3rd positions. In the operatic category the Academy was placed in 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th positions, a class we have won now for the past 9 years! We congratulate each and every student for their sterling achievements; their talents shone through, and we thank them for giving up part of the holiday to travel all the way across the country participate in the event and represent the Academy.



Part of the KMF Junior School group celebrating

PYP Parent Workshops

PYP Coffee Mornings and Evenings are organized to help you understand our Junior School Programme better. The morning session is repeated in an evening session so that parents can attend at their convenience. We will begin the first session with an *Introduction to the Primary Years Programme*, which is targeted to parents new to the International Baccalaureate (IB). We also invite parents who have been at the school to attend, if they wish to have a refresher of the PYP.

The upcoming coffee morning will take place on **Thursday 14th September at 8.00am to 9.30am** and the repeat evening session will be held on **Thursday 21st September at 5.00pm to 6.30pm**. Please inform the Junior School Secretary Ms. Rebecca Davis of your attendance, for logistics planning, on rebecca.davis@agakhanacademies.org. Note these dates have been revised from our earlier communication, sent in the July newsletter.

Staff profiles are attached for you to get to know our Junior School team, and to introduce our new staff members.

We will send you the Junior School Calendar for 2017 – 2018, with our next newsletter.

Dates for your Diary

September 2017

Day	Date	Event	Time	Venue
Monday	4 th	Enrichment Programme begins	2.45pm – 3.45pm	Various
Monday - Tuesday	4 th – 19 th	CEM Assessments		ICT lab/Learning Commons
Thursday	14 th	PYP Workshop <i>An Introduction to the PYP</i>	8.00am – 9.30am	Learning Commons
Thursday	21 st	PYP Workshop <i>An Introduction to the PYP</i>	5.00pm – 6.30pm	Learning Commons
Thursday	28 th	Year 1 Parents – ‘Refreshments with Ray’ Head of Academy - Mr Raymond Zinsli	8.00am – 9.00am	Executive Boardroom at the (Commons – upstairs)

We wish our families celebrating Eid today a joyous occasion, and to all a lovely and peaceful weekend.

Best regards,

Khona Bhattacharjee

Vice Principal/PYP Coordinator

Attachments:

1. Enrichment Programme information
2. Staff profiles

