

20th March 2015

Dear Parents,

With just a week left before the end of this term, it is a pleasure to write to keep you informed about some key events which have been taking place in the Junior School, as well as upcoming ones.

Enrichment Activities

The school enrichment programme will continue next week with clubs running until 4.00pm on Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th March, and LAMDA on Wednesday 25th March only. Activities in Term 3 will begin on Monday 20th April.

Junior School Play – The Pied Piper

This year's drama production was a truly collaborative effort. Each member of the Junior School (students and teachers) had a role in contributing to make *The Pied Piper* happen, and even during the days leading up to the final performances there was a calm, organised and purposeful buzz around school. We extend our thanks to parents who contributed their time and expertise, to whom we are most grateful, for making a significant contribution to the smooth running of events leading up to this week's shows.



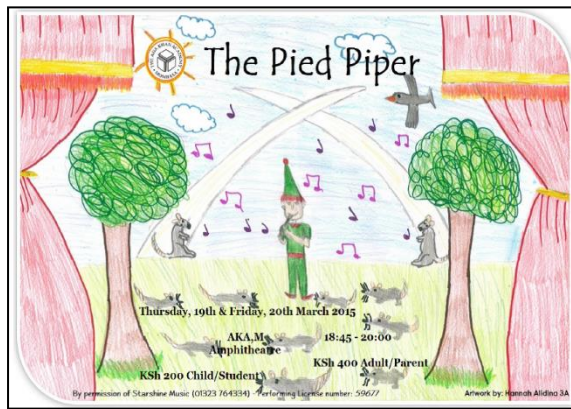
Year 1 getting ready for the final rehearsal



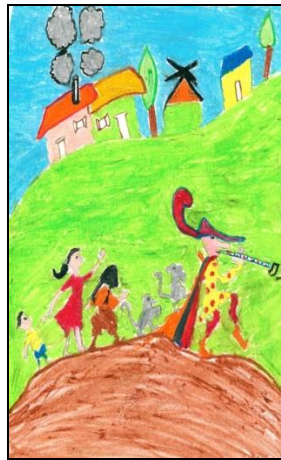
The Pied Piper poster submissions

The Pied Piper Poster Competition

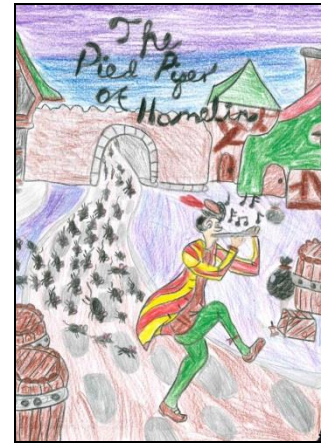
The Promotion Team organised a poster competition for the production in which students were invited to participate. Criteria for judging a poster was explained beforehand (composition, relevance, use of tone and overall impression). Our judging panel included our Promotion Committee, Arts teachers and other members of the school community.



Overall Winning Poster
Hannah Alidina – Year 3



1st Runner Up
Diya Khataw – Year 4



2nd Runner Up
Kaleem Adamjee – Year 4

Sports Day: Friday 27th March

Our annual Junior School Inter-House Sports Day will take place on **Friday 27th March**. We are aiming for a prompt start at 8.15am and end at 12.30pm. All students will take part in at least 3 events and we expect them to stay on until the end of the sports day. Students should come to school dressed in their P.E. clothing (with their house colour t-shirt), have sun screen on and bring a hat/cap, water bottle and healthy snack. Please provide a snack from home rather than give your child money to buy some from the tuck shop, as we will be at the sport field for the morning.

Students who go home on the bus will leave at **1:00pm**. Lunch will be provided to those who usually have a school lunch.

The sports day programme will be sent to you on Monday 23rd March 2015. This will allow you to see approximately what time your child will be participating. We plan to have parent races as well and are encouraging you to participate. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

Assembly

Since our last newsletter our main assembly was today's, which focused around a celebration of our results in recent sports events. This included last week's CASA Swimming Gala and a skating competition.

A parent at the Swimming Gala wrote...

Just a quick message to let you know that both swimming teams - Aga Khan Academy girls and boys - took first runner up in boys' and first runner up in girls' categories in this weekend's CASA swimming gala - great achievement as competition was tough and our team was not very big. Most events/age groups saw AKAM students on the podium. Kudos to all swimmers and coaches as well as their parents who well supported their kids despite the heat!



AKAM Under 9 Swimming Team

Summative Assessments and next Unit of Inquiry

Many thanks for turning up in big numbers to come and support your child present their learning during the Summative Assessment celebration for end of Unit 4. These opportunities where students share their learning with an audience are important for many reasons, amongst which are building confidence and clarifying understandings.



Year 2



Year 2

Next week you will receive the Curriculum Overviews for the fifth Unit this year. Through these documents, teachers share with the parents the learning that has been planned for the next six weeks, detailing the core objectives that will be explored in the different subjects. Your involvement in your child's learning at school is important for us, and we encourage you to come forth as an expert/guest presenter should you feel you would like to help students connect to the learning during the upcoming Units of Inquiry, Literacy, Maths or any other curriculum area. Please contact the teachers in good time if you are able and willing to come in.

MYP Personal Project: Wednesday 25th March

The Year 10 end of MYP (Middle Years Programme) Student Personal Project presentations will take place next week on Wednesday 25th March. These will be showcased at the Commons and Senior School Library from 12.00pm to 4:00pm. We invite our Junior School parents to attend this event as it is interesting to see the progression of students' education as they move through the IB programme.

Communicating with teachers

We believe that your child's well-being and academic progress is a collaboration with parents, and for this we strongly advise regular communication. We are planning to install a telephone in the Junior School for teachers' use, as a means of communication with parents. If you have anything you want to discuss about your child you are invited to make an appointment directly with their teachers. Should you not be able to come into school, discussions can take place over the phone. Generally, appointments can be made between 3:00pm and 4:30pm on week days after school except for days when teachers are involved in professional development or enrichment activities.

Student belongings

All student belongings should go home over the April holidays so that classrooms can be cleared out. These will be sent home with the students on Thursday, 26th March. Students should not bring any bags to school on Friday 27th March (unless with their snack and drink in it) as this is the school Sports Day.

School Facilities

Over the past months concerns have been raised about cleanliness and maintenance of our washroom facilities. Their upkeep is a priority for us. Some parents and members of the school administration have been doing regular spot checks. Our students have also been asked to respect these facilities in not only keeping them clean, but also to communicate to us should they find them out of order. An improvement in the standard of the cleanliness of the washrooms has been clearly noted.

End of Term 2

We look forward to seeing many of you at the various school events over the next week and remind you that school finishes at **12:30pm on Friday 27th March** for the April holiday. Classes resume on **Monday 13th April**. For those of you who will be travelling, we wish you a safe journey and a relaxing and wonderful holiday to all.

Yours sincerely,

Isla Gordon
Principal, Junior School

