



# Auckland Park Academy of Excellence



74 Richmond Ave.  
Auckland Park  
2092



011 482 7852  
011 482 7210



www.apax.co.za  
admin@apax.co.za

## NEWSLETTER-ISSUE 3-2014 April 2014/Jumad-UI-Thaani 1435

As Salaam u Alaikum

### SELF ESTEEM

Tell yourself- I deserve to be happy,  
I have the power to change myself,  
I can forgive and understand others and their motives,  
I can make my own choices and decisions,  
I am free to choose and to give priority to my beliefs,  
I can choose happiness whenever I wish no matter what my circumstances,  
I am flexible and open to change,  
I act with confidence having a general plan and accept that plans are open to alteration,  
It is enough to have done my best,  
I deserve to be loved!  
(Source-Edris Khamissa)  
Editor Ms F Amod

### From the principal's desk...

As Salaam u Alaikum Parents

If thy Lord had so willed, He could have made mankind One People: but they will not cease to be diverse."

(Sura Hood, verse 118)



I recently had a few parents querying why our learners at APAX had to learn about other cultures/religions. For this reason, I have decided to focus on why diversity is important...

The globalized world of today finds an amalgamation of different cultures, all brought into one common place, which is what diversity is. How and why is diversity important in society? What does diversity do? First and foremost, it teaches us to accept differences in others and look beyond the base emotions of language, culture, race and colour – It teaches us to be more open and accepting of things that are different from us and in that process makes us more adjustable and open.

We should constantly and carefully examine our own attitudes and behaviors to make sure that we do not demonstrate prejudice or disrespect for those who are different. Children become aware of diversity early in life; they also need to learn to respect and appreciate rather than fear diversity. By modelling respect, we show children that customs, languages, cultures, and physical attributes different from their own are important and to be honoured.

Diversity in our society should be valued and enjoyed, not considered a threat to our Islamic values and lifestyle. Teachers and parents need to accept the challenge of promoting an atmosphere of understanding and harmony in which all children can grow and develop fully. Our big aim is to produce learners who are responsible citizens of our country...citizens who can, one day be proud of their APAX heritage as they make a valuable contribution towards the upliftment of our society at large.

### Staff News

We welcome Muallima Sophia Saib as our replacement teacher for Muallima Kausar. We are also happy to announce that Muallima kausar gave birth to a bouncy baby girl. May Allah (SWT) grant her many happy hours with little Maariyah.

### Congratulations

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> March Zahra Patelia successfully completed the Bosveld Mile in Bela Bela. This prestigious event attracts swimmers from around the globe. Well done, Zahra



We would also like to congratulate Irfaan Mia and Mohammed Kola who have travelled abroad to participate in the Dubai Supercup on 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> April.

### Parent Teacher Interviews

We had an excellent turn out at both our Junior and Senior meetings. Thank you to all parents who met with class and subject teachers to discuss academic progress. This kind of interest and support from parents is

heart-warming indeed!

### Curriculum

Making learning fun and meaningful has been one of the focus areas this year. We are proud of our Grade 9's – they have produced some very creative work during the first term.

**They hosted a very successful "Kos Dag". Part of their task was to design a menu**



Designing and building a bridge...and then using their presentation skills to share their ideas



### Assembly talk by Brother Hewitt

We were very fortunate to have Brother Hewitt from the United Kingdom address our learners at assembly. Brother Hewitt is a principal of an Islamic school – he shared personal experiences and focused on the preservation of our Islamic values.



### Dates to Diarise

Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> April – APAX learners and CFDT will be participating at Arthur Ash in Soweto. This is an open invitation to all APAX tennis kids to participate.

Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> May: Annual Class Photos-optional

Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May: Hooked on Books Show ( for all learners only)-AGS Auditorium

Friday, 16 May: Invitation to ALL APAX parents only: A talk delivered by Edris Khamissa  
Topic: Dynamics of Parenting in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, Time: 18:30, Venue: AGS Auditorium

21<sup>st</sup> May: Grade 9 Parent's meeting to discuss subject choices for 2015

28<sup>th</sup> May: Zain Bhika School Visit: talk/workshop for all learners at AGS Auditorium at 10:30am

### School Holidays Reminder

A reminder that school will close on 25<sup>th</sup> April and re-open on 5<sup>th</sup> May

Mid-year break – we close on 4<sup>th</sup> July and re-open on 4<sup>th</sup> August.

We will be closing a week later in the mid-term to accommodate the last week of Ramadhan.

However, we will be required to make up for the two lost day. These two days will be made up at the end of the year. Instead of school closing on 10 December 2014 we will close on 12 December 2014.

### Hifz Learners

There will be compulsory hifz classes during the second term break ie from the 7th July to 19 July 2014. The additional week is to compensate for the lost time during the first term holidays.

### Condolences

Our sincere condolences to the families of:

Salma Wadee (Grade 8) who lost her dad today.

late Hassen Goolam Mohamed Karolia (Board member of JMS),

late Hafez Abdul Gani Gaibee (grandad of Saood Variawa grade 3)

*"O Allah! Forgive the decease, elevate his status among the guided people and look after the family that he left behind. O Lord of the universe! Forgive us and him, comfort him in his grave and lighten his stay (in the grave)."* [Sahih Muslim]

### Extra Murals

Many people think of extra murals as being a waste of time, but they are almost just as important as the academic element of a child's education. Education should not be seen as only the cognitive development of a child, but to raise a balanced child it is important to allow them to develop other aspects of their personality and skill base as well.

For this reason, extra-mural activities must be seen as a crucial part of a child's life and a child must be encouraged to participate and supported in his participation in these activities.

A copy of the timetable has been circulated to all learners. Remedial classes are only for those learners who have been invited to attend.

Our Charity Clubbers ran a very successful car wash at school and managed to raise R600 which was added to their donation to the Children of Fire Home in Auckland Park. We are very proud of them and their super efforts throughout



**Our art club showed off all the work they produced throughout the first term.**



Learners attending the eco club had lots of fun designing and building bird feeders which they hung up around the school



### **Leadership Team**

We would like to congratulate the following grade 4 learners who have been elected to join our APAX leadership team



**Talhah Patelia, Hamzah Ebrahim, Zeenat Moosa and Raeesa Dhorat**

### **FOUNDATION PHASE**

Grade 1-Art Activity



### **Head Lice**

We recently did a health inspection in the Foundation Phase and found that there are learners who have nits. Parents are requested to check regularly and appeal to you to alert the school. Learners will be required to stay at home until it has cleared completely.

### **Assessment Planners**

These will be circulated to all learners on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> April. There are a number of disruptions in terms of public and school holidays this term. Please ensure that your child does not stay away for trivial reasons.

### **Discipline**

**Our Anti Bullying Week is scheduled for the week of 19-23 May. Our slogan this year is:**

## Online Harassment Has An Offline Impact

From this you can see that our focus will be on cyberbullying which is becoming an increasingly big problem at APAX.

### Inter –School Netball/ Soccer Tournament

Our U13 and U15 girls are working hard to compete in the U13 and U15 inter-school netball tournament which will be held at the Benoni Muslim School on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> May. Our U15 boys will compete in a soccer tournament on the same day. We wish all our teams all the best!

### Tennis

We would like to congratulate Yusuf Dadoo who won the CFTD Junior Classic in the red category at Elis Park recently. There were many other learners who participated and performed very well. Thank you to all the parents who came along to support the learners.

### Olympiads

We have registered our learners in the 2014 Conquesta Shool Olympiad. The purpose of the Olympiad is to encourage and inspire school children to become aware of their self worth and potential, building up their self esteem, regardless of results. Our foundation phase will be writing Mathematics and English and our Intermediate phase will write Mathematics 1 and 2 as well as English.

Today let's make a special dua for our parents. May Allah keep our parents away from harm. May Allah give us the patience to deal with them in their old age as they dealt with us in our young age. When we were small and couldn't walk fast our parents slowed their walking down to suit us, are we slowing our walking now to suit them as they are old. May we never forget how much they have done for us. Ameen

Wasalaam

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