



# Acorns International School

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## Message from the Head of School / CEO

This year has been another landmark year for AIS. We have effectively doubled the size of school and still growing, with now being a candidate school for MYP and IB Diploma, and eventually offering Cambridge A Level Programme in August 2019 and IB Diploma Programme in August 2020.

At AIS, we are not only trying to teach you the knowledge that you may need in future, we are also concerned with what kind of people you will become. It is, of course, very important for you to understand who you are, how the world works, and how we organize ourselves. And it is also very important for you to be a caring, open-minded communicator, no matter what your future holds.

I want to thank all our students for making this year such a memorable one! I would also like to thank our teachers, not only homeroom, but also standalone teachers, admin staff, auxiliary staff and my HODs. Thank you for all the hard work that has been consistent and sincere and for putting the philosophy, beliefs and values of AIS in action!

Wish you a wonderful holiday!

*Ameena Lalani - HoS/CEO*

Date	Event
23 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	Open Day and Orientation for new Parents
26 <sup>th</sup> Aug	First Day of Term I
13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Coffee with Curriculum Coordinator / PTO Elections
16 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	ECDC Family Week / Assessments
20 <sup>th</sup> Sept	ECDC Grandparents' Day
1 <sup>st</sup> - 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Student Rep. Elections
5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	World Teachers' Day
9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Holiday - Independence Day
17 <sup>th</sup> - 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Global Village / MYP Africana
21 <sup>st</sup> - 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Midterm Break

## Message from Parent Teacher Organisation



It is the end of the year and the 2018-2019 Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) has had a wonderful year partnering with AIS. The PTO has achieved many of the goals it set out to accomplish, but we would be remiss to let the parents and teachers that helped us go unrecognized. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered to be CPRs for class WhatsApp groups, bought class art in the Art Exhibition, allowed their students to participate in Home Clothes days, donated and bought books during Book Week, put up banners during Sports Week, and donated food and drinks for Staff Appreciation.

It is only through your contributions and cooperation that we were able to accomplish our goal to appreciate and motivate students with good behaviour. AIS already had procedures in place for managing behaviour; PTO just wanted to come alongside the teachers and offer support and encouragement. In Term 2, we brought in bouncy castles and cotton candy for ECDC and PYP and had pizza party with MYP. In Term 3, PTO brought in an acrobat show for ECDC and PYP and took MYP students with ZERO detentions on a fieldtrip to the movies.

With funds raised, PTO was also able to cater shawarma for the staff during the Staff Appreciation Lunch and buy AIS a new popcorn machine to be used during future events.

If you are interested in being a part of the PTO next year, we will be looking for active members with new ideas starting Augusts 23rd during Open Day.

**AIS PTO (2018-19)**



## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE UPDATES

### Parent Teacher Meeting



We had our end-of-year Parent-Teacher Meeting and it was wonderful to see so many happy faces as parents heard about the progress their children have made this year. I know our teachers are sad to see their students leave their class but are also excited about what lies ahead for them in the next academic year.



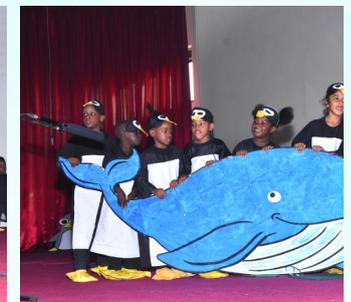
### Assembly

Our youngest students had their assembly. Crèche Hummingbirds taught us about fruits while EC1 Meerkats sang to us about the weather. EC1 Mongooses showed us the different ways we can move around. The assembly was great fun; congratulations to our students for a fantastic performance.



### Edc Production (Eddie the Penguin)

The year ended for ECDC in a theatrical extravaganza! After working hard all year, learning lines and songs and dances, we put on the musical 'Eddie the Penguin Saves the World!' Every student had their part to play and did so very well. Thank you to all our teachers for all your efforts; they have been amply rewarded. Students, we are tremendously proud of you! With the end of 'Eddie', came the end of the academic year for Reception and therefore their Graduation Ceremony. We hope that you will look back on your year in Reception as fondly as we will. It was fantastic to share this special moment with you, as you move to Primary. Best of luck for the future. So ends the 2018-2019 academic year in ECDC at AIS. I hope everyone has a restful break and will be ready for the new academic year on 26 August. Happy holidays!



### GRADUATION

With the end of 'Eddie', came the end of the academic year for Reception and therefore their Graduation Ceremony. Elephants finished their time in ECDC with a high-energy dance while Giraffes sang their thanks to everyone who has helped them on their journey so far. After a long morning of performance, the Graduation Cupcakes were very much needed and enjoyed by all the exultant students. We hope that you will look back on your year in Reception as fondly as we will. It was fantastic to share this special moment with you, as you move to Primary. Best of luck for the future. So ends the 2018-2019 academic year in ECDC at AIS. I hope everyone has a restful break and will be ready for the new academic year on 26 August. Happy holidays!



Rebecca Hawkins - HoD ECDC

Y6 EXHIBITION

**EXHIBITION**  
**PYPX**  
**YEAR 6**  
**2019**

Voice is a major driving force in the PYP; “Students with agency have voice, choice and ownership and a propensity to take action, influence and direct learning, contribute to and participate in the learning community” – IBO, 2018. In this edition we honour our student voices in Y.6 as they reflect on their exhibition journey. Voice is a major driving force in the PYP; “Students with agency have voice, choice and ownership and a propensity to take action, influence and direct learning, contribute to and participate in the learning community” – IBO, 2018. In this edition we honour our student voices in Y.6 as they reflect on their exhibition journey.



GRADUATION



On the 19th of June, thirty-one students (2 in absentia) graduated from Year 6. It was a most joyous and prideful occasion.

The graduates shared their memories of the many learning engagements, activities, and special events from throughout this academic year. Students and teachers gave speeches, and the Cedars and Maples performed in Kiswahili and French. Students walked together in procession for the last time as PYP students regally dressed in caps and gowns. There were a lot of smiles, cheers, hugs, and even a few tears. But graduation is more than speeches, a

commencement procession, and performances, dressing up, getting an important piece of paper, and throwing a cap in the air! Graduation is about celebrating past achievements, expressing gratitude for how far we have come, and looking forward to the future. Graduation and commencement ceremonies are an important rite of passage. Our Year 6s are moving from childhood to adolescence with new opportunities and new responsibilities. They are apprehensive and excited, but most importantly, they are ready! Graduation is an end, but it is also a beginning. The AIS family is so happy to bear witness and support these fine girls and boys on their educational journey. We cannot wait to see what they do next!



Evans Kimani - PYP CC

## PYP UPDATES

### Parent Teacher meetings

Every year, AIS holds Parent Teacher meetings. This is usually a great opportunity for the parents and teachers to discuss the child's academic progress, strength, areas of need and set goals for the next class. This year our Parent Teacher meetings were held on 14th and 15th June respectively. They were fruitful and parents came in big numbers. We would like to take this opportunity to appreciate everyone who came. We request that this kind of interaction continues since it helps students to succeed.



### Assemblies



Year 2's assembly was held on April 17th. It was a great success! Students from both Ms. Deepa and Ms. Evie's class were grouped together to perform their different Units of Inquiry. The first performance was a skit based on the units Into the Past and Eureka. Students invented a time machine to travel into the past and visit ancient civilizations. The second performance was a skit based on the unit The Future. Students demonstrated how the choices people make can affect their futures in positive and negative ways. The third skit was based on the unit Every Picture Tells a Story. Students used imagines to find their way to their destination. The final performance was a collaborative celebration dance. The students worked very hard in preparation and enjoyed performing on the stage. The teachers would like to say a special thank you to Mr. Phidelis for art design, Ms. Scovia for drama lessons and Mr. Jay for dance lessons as well as the parents who came to support the students. It was a memorable event for everyone!

### Economic Fair



The "Economic Fair" was held on 29th April 2019 with an aim to enable students understand the value of money, and at the same time learn different tactics of advertisement and making profits.



Students put up stalls keeping in mind the target consumer i.e. students, teachers and parents.

The total sale from the two classes Y4S Gold and Y4N Titanium was 478,600UGX.

Out of generosity, our students willingly proceeded the collected amount towards charity (Nyaka Foundation). It is their willingness to give it out for a good cause.



*Shallon Baguma - HoD Primary*



## AIS Sports Teams



What a great and rewarding year this has been for the AIS sports teams. We have challenged ourselves like never before, pushed limits, trained, and given it our all, while still respecting the rules of the game, understanding the importance of sportsmanship and having fun.

This year the AIS sports teams did so well in the galas and competitions they took place in. Some of their achievements this academic year include: the AIS Basketball team winning the ISSA championships, the AIS Girls Football team placing as 1st Runner up at ISSA, the AIS Swim team placing in 2nd position at the ISSA Swimming Gala, and the AIS girls winning the ISSA Cross-Country championships.

We are thrilled by their effort and commend their determination this year and at the same time we look forward to a more rigorous, challenging and fruitful year to come—filled with meaningful experiences, teamwork and victories. We welcome all students to explore their athletic talents and consider joining the AIS Swim, Basketball or Soccer team. We are also pleased to announce that the cost for sports teams next academic year will be cut to \$50 USD/academic year. For more information, please inquire from Ms. Arianna in the Primary Head Office.



## AIS Clubs



We work hard to make every day fun and meaningful for our students. But we understand that the parameters of fun, as well as meaningfulness, can keep changing, which is why we revisit certain parts of their school day, to keep it fresh. This term, we had some great moments in after school clubs; some new facilitators, and other old hats with new tricks. The Ballet performance, during the Celebration of Learning, was one such display of an acquired skill- a great display of poise and elegance. School lunches are another area where we are

constantly working on feedback and striving to offer healthy and balanced meals. We look forward to hearing from you with continued support and constructive feedback at [admin@ais.ac.ug](mailto:admin@ais.ac.ug).

It is 'US' that build the foundation of AIS. Happy holidays!

*Nishitha Shrivastava*  
HoD- Admissions and Administration



## CELEBRATION OF LEARNING 2018-19

Environment Conservation is at the core of our learning at AIS. This year's Celebration of Learning was exemplary of this. Starting with our youngest, in ECDC, who taught us about the global melting ice or the older ones teaching us about recycling, conservation pledges, ozone depletion or climate change. Every student took centerstage with learnings they wanted to celebrate!



