

## Kisaasi Newsletter Midterm 2 25-26

**2026 - 2027 Academic Year**

August		Term 1	
1	2	3	HcDs in Service
4	5	4	New Staff Induction
6	7	5	Staff in Service
8	9	6	14. Open Day /
10	11	7	PRPG Family Information Meeting /
12	13	8	New MYP Family Information Session
14	15	9	17 First Day of Term 1
16	17	10	31 PYP and MYP MAP Assessments Start
18	19	11	
20	21	12	
22	23	13	
24	25	14	
26	27	15	
28	29	16	
30	31	17	
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**September**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
23	EYP Family Week																															
10-11	Coffee with Curriculum Coordinator (CCC)																															
11	PFO Selections																															
17	SEC Academic Integrity Family Workshops / DP EE Unpacking																															
23-25	SEC Career Days / SEC Student Workshops / University Fair (TBC)																															
23	Students Council Inauguration																															

2026-2027 Academic Year Calendar pg.1



Coffee With Curriculum Coordinators pg.2,3,4,5



Family Language and STAND UP to Bullying Days pg.7





## Message from the Head of School



We are delighted to have our students back on campus and to see our classrooms full of energy and purpose once again. A new term always brings fresh opportunities for learning, growth, and community, and we are excited for all that lies ahead.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of you for your flexibility, patience, and understanding as we navigated the uncertainty surrounding the government guidelines for returning to school. We recognise that changing timelines and evolving communication created challenges for families, and we deeply appreciate the way our community responded with cooperation and support.

Your partnership makes an enormous difference. By working together and remaining adaptable, we have been able to prioritise what matters most - the wellbeing and continuity of learning for our students.

### Family Fun Fest

Our recent Family Fun Fest was a vibrant celebration of community spirit. Families, students, staff, and friends came together to enjoy a day filled with activities, food, games, and products and services from various vendor stalls. Despite the rainy weather, the energy and enthusiasm remained high.

This annual event is an initiative led by our Parent Teacher Organisation (PTO) in collaboration with our CAS students. Beyond the fun, the Fest carried a meaningful purpose: funds raised will support ongoing PTO initiatives and contribute to the CAS project aimed at constructing bathrooms and classrooms at Pearl Junior School in Katoogo Village.

We are grateful to everyone who attended and contributed to making the day both joyful and impactful.



### Ms Caroline is our New Chief of Academics



Ms. Caroline, our EYP Curriculum Coordinator, will be stepping into the role of Chief of Academics (COA) for the Acorns Group of International Schools.

In this role, she will lead the streamlining and alignment of curriculum implementation across all Acorns campuses, ensuring coherence in academic standards, assessment practices, and instructional expectations across the schools. She will also provide oversight and strategic direction for Learner Support, strengthening structures, interventions, and inclusive practices to ensure that every child is appropriately supported and able to thrive.

For the remainder of this academic year, Ms. Caroline will continue in her role as EYP Curriculum Coordinator at Kisaasi while also serving as COA. She will transition fully into the COA position in August 2026.

We are thrilled to continue working with Ms. Caroline in this expanded capacity. Her deep understanding of our programmes, commitment to excellence, and dedication to student success position her exceptionally well for this role. We look forward to sharing further updates as strategic directions continue to develop.

### 2026-2027 Academic Year Calendar

Please click the link or use the QR code to download next year's calendar.

[Click the Link](#)



**Rachelle Hale-Molo**  
Head of School

Email: [headofschool@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:headofschool@acornskisaasi.com)



## Message from the Head of Early Years

With strong foundations laid in Term 1, we have enjoyed welcoming the students back for Term 2 and watching them settle so quickly after the break. Classrooms have been full of smiles as friendships have blossomed and familiar bonds have grown even stronger.

With routines back in place, students are ready to dive deeper into their learning, showing greater confidence, independence, and curiosity in their play and explorations. There is a buzz of excitement and learning back in EYP, and we look forward to seeing where this next stage of our journey will take us together.

### Favourites Week

EYP Favourites Week was a joyful highlight as we settled back into Term 2 - a celebration of all the things we love. From sharing favourite colours and fruits to enjoying movie time in our pajamas, the week was filled with laughter and excitement. Show and Tell gave the children a chance to speak about their favourite toys while practicing careful listening and learning more about one another.

Along the way, they strengthened their confidence in sharing, turn-taking, and expressing their preferences. With games, bouncy castles, face painting, and special mascot visitors, it was a wonderful week of connection, communication, and community.



**Andi Haskins**  
HoD Early Years

Email: [earlyyearshod@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:earlyyearshod@acornskisaasi.com)

## Message from the EYP Curriculum Coordinator

I am honoured to step into the role of Chief of Academics and to contribute to the continued strengthening and alignment of our curriculum across the Acorns campuses. While this role expands my strategic responsibilities, my commitment to Early Years in Kisaasi remains unchanged. I will continue to be present at the Kisaasi campus for the remainder of this academic year, serving as EYP Curriculum Coordinator and working closely with our teachers and families.

### EYP Coffee With The Curriculum Coordinator - Screen Time in the Early Years

This term's Coffee with the Curriculum Coordinator focused on navigating screen time in the early years and exploring practical alternatives that support a meaningful balance around screen time use.

The session provided a safe, open space for parents and caregivers to reflect on real-life experiences, share challenges, and consider the importance of human connection and play in early development. The engagement and feedback were incredibly motivating. As a follow-up, families received the session slides and practical resources to help implement ideas at home. We look forward to hearing how these strategies are supporting balance in your families.



**Caroline Nganda**  
EYP Curriculum Coordinator

Email: [eypcordinator@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:eypcordinator@acornskisaasi.com)



## Message from the Head of Primary

We have already completed the first three weeks of the academic year, and our hallways are buzzing with curiosity as classrooms come alive with inquiry and discovery.

Whether returning or new to our community, it has been wonderful to see students settle in, reconnect with friends, and begin their Units of Inquiry.

To our new families, welcome. We understand this is an important transition, and our teachers will be connecting with you to support your child within the PYP framework. Please remember our doors are always open should you wish to meet.



### PYP4 Field Trip

As part of the Unit of Inquiry "Tools and Implements" under the transdisciplinary theme "How the World Works," our PYP 4 students participated in an educational field trip to a Paper Craft Centre. The visit gave students first-hand experience of how tools are used to recycle paper and glass into new products. They observed the recycling process and participated in hands-on activities, including making recycled paper and creating items from recycled materials. This experience deepened their understanding of efficiency, sustainability, and environmental responsibility, while effectively connecting classroom learning to real-world applications.



### In Memoriam



We are deeply saddened by the passing of our dear PYP6 student, Sonia Rita Nantongo. Sonia was a bright, kind, and respectful learner who brought warmth and positivity into our classroom every single day. Her beautiful smile and sweet spirit will always remain in our hearts. She will be greatly missed by her teachers and friends, but lovingly remembered for the light she shared with us all.

**Shallon Baguma**  
HoD Primary

Email: [primaryhod@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:primaryhod@acornskisaasi.com)

## Message from the PYP Curriculum Coordinator

In February, our PYP community engaged in meaningful learning experiences through parent partnership and student trips.

### PYP Coffee With The Curriculum Coordinator- Supporting Student Agency

On 6th February, we hosted Coffee with the Curriculum Coordinator, focusing on supporting student agency and exploring how families can encourage voice, choice, and ownership at home. Thank you to all the parents who attended and contributed to the discussion.

### PYP6 Overnight Trip

On 19th–20th February, PYP6 students participated in their overnight trip to Lakeside Adventure Park. This experience plays a key role in preparing students for the PYP Exhibition, as it focuses on developing essential ATL skills, including communication, thinking, and self-management, fundamental to the success of their Exhibition and their continued growth as independent learners.



**Jamal Makki**  
PYP Curriculum Coordinator

Email: [pypcoordinator@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:pypcoordinator@acornskisaasi.com)



## Message from the Head of Secondary

As we approach the middle of the term, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the incredible energy and growth we have seen across the Secondary School. It has been a busy and productive few weeks, and the momentum continues to build.



### School ID Cards

All Secondary students have official school ID cards. To ensure the safety and security of our community, students must wear them at all times while on campus. We appreciate your support in helping your child make this part of their daily routine.



### Creativity on Stage: Save the Date

Excitement is building for our upcoming Secondary School Play on 10 March. Beyond the rehearsals, it has been wonderful to witness our students' ingenuity behind the scenes. They have shown great creativity in designing stage props, demonstrating that talent in the arts extends far beyond the spotlight. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Resilience in the Wild: DofE Bronze

Congratulations to our Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Bronze participants. Having completed their trip, our students returned with more than just tired feet. They strengthened their resilience, developed outdoor cooking skills, and practised essential life skills, such as problem-solving and teamwork, that cannot easily be taught within a classroom setting.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support in your child's learning journey.



**Shirin Bagchi**  
HoD Secondary

Email: [secondaryhod@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:secondaryhod@acornskisaasi.com)

## Message from the MYP Curriculum Coordinator

### MYP1–4 MAP Tests and MYP5 Mock eAssessments

MAP assessments for MYP1–4 in Mathematics, Science, English Reading, and English Language Use were held from Tuesday, February 3rd to Friday, February 6th. MYP5 students will complete mock assessments from February 25th to March 6th. These mock exams provide important practice and help identify areas for focused revision ahead of the May eAssessments.



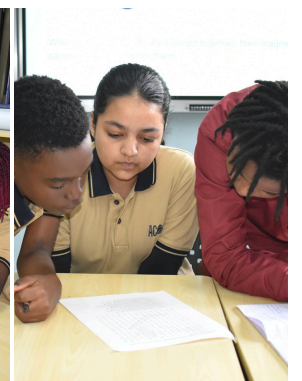
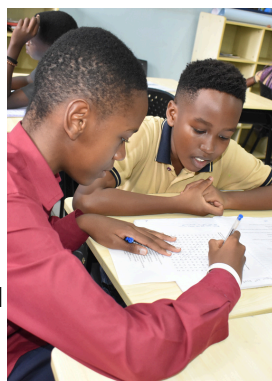
### MYP1–4 Student Toddle Portfolios and Student-Led Conferences (SLCs)

On Friday, March 21st, students and parents will participate in Student-Led Conferences. The focus is on formative growth rather than final grades. Students will share selected portfolio work and reflect on their progress and goals.

### PYP6 to MYP Shadow Days

On Tuesday, February 17th, PYP6 students toured the Secondary building with the MYP Curriculum Coordinator and asked many thoughtful questions.

Beginning Tuesday, February 24th, the MYP welcomed PYP6 students for sample lessons, giving them an introduction to secondary school. The experience concluded with a Q&A session led by MYP class representatives.





**MYP Coffee With The Curriculum Coordinator - Staying Safe Online**

Families were invited to attend the MYP Coffee with the Curriculum Coordinator (CCC), Staying Safe Online, held on Friday, February 6th, in the School Auditorium. The session was led by Mrs Lieke Lubwama-Caldenhoven, Secondary Counsellor, and Mr Sam Weavers, MYP Curriculum Coordinator.

The workshop focused on keeping young people safe online through strong connections, clear boundaries, and consistent routines. It explored how students experience the online world, why positive relationships matter, and practical approaches to supervision and setting digital boundaries.



**Sam Weavers**  
MYP Curriculum Coordinator

Email: [mypcoordinator@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:mypcoordinator@acornskisaasi.com)

**Message from the DP/A Levels Curriculum Coordinator**

**DP and A levels Coffee With The Curriculum Coordinator – Parents as Partners in Progress**

On 6th February 2026, we held our Coffee with the Curriculum Coordinator session for DP and A Level families, focusing on supporting student academic wellbeing.

Parents and teachers engaged in meaningful discussions around expectations, feedback, and strategies to reduce academic stress while maintaining high standards. Thank you to all who participated as we continue working together to support our students' growth and well-being.



**DP & A Level Mock and Mid-Term Assessments**

Our DP and A Level students began their Mock and Mid-Term 2 formal assessments on 24th February 2026, which will run through 10th March 2026. These assessments provide students with the opportunity to identify their strengths and areas for improvement, enabling both students and teachers to implement targeted strategies in preparation for the final examinations in April 2026 for both the Cambridge and IB programmes. We commend our students for their focus and dedication during this important assessment period

**MYP5 Parent Information Meeting**

On Wednesday, 25th February, we successfully hosted the MYP5 Parent Information Meeting, designed to guide parents and students on the IB Diploma Programme (IBDP) pathways at Acorns.

The session provided insights into Full Diploma and Courses pathway options, entry criteria, subject selection, and career and university pathways, helping families make informed decisions for the next academic phase. We thank all parents who attended for your engagement and support, and we look forward to continuing this partnership as our students transition smoothly into the IBDP.



**Kanyesigye Kenneth**  
DP/A Levels Coordinator

Email: [dpcoordinator@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:dpcoordinator@acornskisaasi.com)



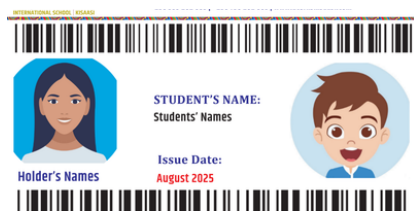
## Message from the Head of Administration



### Health and Safety

We are planning a dental health check, and the confirmed dates will be communicated via Toddle. If any parent or guardian does not wish for their child to participate, please inform Ms. Rosyelene or your child's homeroom teacher, who will notify the administration accordingly.

### Family IDs and Early Pick-Up



We continue to encourage the consistent use of Family IDs. If your family requires an ID, please request one from Ms. Rosyelene via [admin@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:admin@acornskisaasi.com).

If there are any changes regarding the adults authorised to pick up your child, kindly inform us in writing at [admin@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:admin@acornskisaasi.com) or contact the Reception Desk at 0393 202665.

We also remind families that repeated late pick-ups should be avoided, as this may result in additional after-school care charges. Students should be collected within 10–15 minutes after their final class, club, or team practice.

### Evacuation Drill

On Wednesday, 18th February, students participated in the second evacuation drill of the academic year, an exercise conducted each term.

We appreciate the cooperation of both students and staff in ensuring the drill was carried out smoothly. These exercises are essential in helping us remain prepared and informed about the procedures to follow in the event of a real emergency.



**Rosyelene Ampumuza**  
HoD Administration

Email: [admin@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:admin@acornskisaasi.com)

## Message from the Head of Specialties

The energy on campus is electric as we dive straight into a high-stakes ISSA season. This term, our Athletes are focusing on Primary Football and Secondary Basketball.

We are thrilled to announce that our U9 and U11 Boys' and Girls' teams are officially registered and competing in the ISSA Primary Football League. These young athletes are already demonstrating incredible teamwork and spirit on the pitch.

In the Secondary section, our Under 13, 16, and 20 Boys' and Girls' teams are gearing up for the prestigious ISSA Basketball Championship. The competition is fierce, but our teams are ready to rise to the challenge.

On Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> February 2026, Acorns Kisaasi successfully hosted a thrilling series of ISSA basketball and football matches. It was a day filled with skill, sportsmanship, and school pride.

We encourage you to come out and support our athletes as they push for glory in the coming weeks. Let's keep the Acorns spirit loud and proud!



**Henry Kalanzi**  
Head of Specialties

Email: [specialiteshod@acornskisaasi.com](mailto:specialiteshod@acornskisaasi.com)



## Family Language Day

Family Language Day was a vibrant and heartwarming celebration of the diverse languages and cultures within our community. Students proudly shared words from their home languages and came dressed in beautiful traditional attire, demonstrating genuine curiosity, acceptance, and respect for one another's heritage. The day was a joyful reminder of the richness of our multilingual community and has truly been a highlight of the term.



## International STAND UP to Bullying Day

Our school community came together to mark International STAND UP to Bullying Day, observed on Friday, 27th February. It was a powerful opportunity for students to reflect on kindness, inclusion, and the role each of us plays in creating a safe and respectful environment.

In Early Years, students enjoyed a puppet show and role-play activities focused on kindness and inclusion, and quickly filled a "kindness jar" with thoughtful ideas on how to care for one another each day.

Primary students hosted an Information Centre Exhibition where they shared opinions and debates on bullying, kindness, and respect, alongside collaborative artwork from PYP1-PYP6, encouraging open dialogue and deeper understanding.

Secondary students took part in an interactive session on moving from bystander to upstander, exploring real-life scenarios and practicing safe strategies to support themselves and others. All secondary students and staff received STAND UP to Bullying keyholders as a daily reminder of our shared commitment to a positive school culture.

