

HOME OF THE MIGHTY SCARABS

AUGUST 2022 PARENT NEWSLETTER BACK TO SCHOOL



Message from Principal Mrs. Lakisha Ingraham

The 2021.2022 school year ended on a high note with a very successful 11th Commencement Ceremony. Akhepran graduates earned more than \$600,000 in scholarships from Universities around the world. Congratulations to all of our scholars.



THANK YOU Akhepran parents and staff for a very profound year of resilience, achievements and growth! COVID 19 brought many challenges and required ongoing changes, but the AKHEPRAN SPIRIT and focus on **EXCELLENCE WITHOUT EXCUSE** never wavered. We are excited to begin the new school year and receive the abundance of blessings. Please read all of the information shared in this Newsletter to guide you in your planning for the new school year.

We are preparing for an outstanding and successful **Akhepran 12th Anniversary** year and we look forward to you assisting and celebrating with us. Please let me know if you have any suggestions, questions or concerns.

This year we said farewell to several staff including Mrs. Pratt, Mr. Kwafo Mante, Mr. Angole, Miss Frazer and Mrs. Taylor. We celebrate the love, passion and excellent work they have done for Akhepran and our scholars and pray their every success in their new journeys. We will introduce our new staff during orientation.

We are going to experience a year of Divine Blessings and Grace from God.

WELCOME to the 2022.2023 school year!

Scarab Salute,
Mrs. Lakisha Ingraham
Principal
Akhepran International Academy



**Transformation
and
Resilience**

Message from Chair Akhepran Board of Directors CELEBRATING 12 YEARS OF DIVINE AUTHORITY & PERFECTION!

Akhepran Board of Directors, wish to share that our standard of excellence will be maintained as we prepare our "back to school" routine and productivity. We will comply with all of the expectations of the ongoing COVID pandemic protocols to ensure all staff and students remain safe. Meanwhile preparations are being made to accommodate all students on campus, on day one. We will continue to plan with your child's best interest and safety as priority.

We ask that all parents and guardians demonstrate a positive mindset - ALWAYS seeing the glass as half full because your children watch, discern and act on your fears, frustration and concerns. COVID 19 challenges continue to bring about shifts and opportunities for exploration, expansion and transformation! Our 2022.2023 school theme reflects the goal and celebrations of our past, present and future: **CELEBRATING 12 YEARS OF DIVINE AUTHORITY AND PERFECTION!**

Your commitment and generosity have helped to bring us this far and we are forever grateful and honored to offer the scholars the best quality educational experience your money may buy. We celebrate that the majority of our hardworking, dedicated and competent staff are returning to ensure that your child succeeds. **Thanks for your Investment into Akhepran International Academy and Welcome Aboard a new School Year!**

Dr. Jacinta Higgs



SCHOOL RE-OPENS
for students as follows
(full uniform required):

GRADES 11 & 12
Monday, August, 29th 2022
7:30am – 3:00 pm.

ALL STUDENTS
Monday September 5th
7:30am – 5:00pm.
(New school term)

NEW STUDENTS:
Monday, August, 29th 2022
7:30am – 3:00pm.

PRIMARY STUDENTS
Thursday, September 1st 2022
7:30am – 3:00pm.

The administrative team looks forward to a productive and exciting school year as always! **PLEASE** Remain positive and hopeful. Together we can face, overcome and triumph in all things!



TUITION PAYMENT REMINDER

We are grateful for the sacrifice and investment of all parents and guardians. Thank you for your financial integrity. May God richly bless your family this new school year. If you still have a balance, urgently call **Miss Dwina Higgs** to make payments.

601-5101 * 324-9212

\$4500 High & Junior Schools * \$4000 Primary School



REPORT CARD COLLECTION

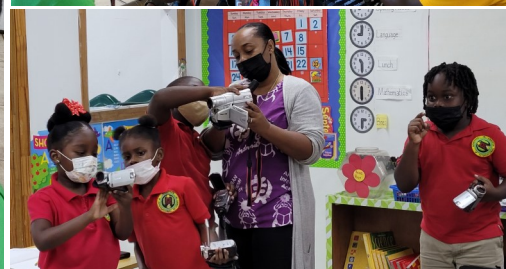
End of Year report cards were emailed to your Akhepran parent email address (those with no tuition account balances). If you did not receive the report card, please contact the office.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS:

8:00am – 4:00pm Monday to Friday.

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS:

7:30am – 5:00pm Monday to Friday



UNIFORM REMINDERS for the new school year:



1. **CRESTS** - required for EVERY shirt or blouse. Available at the office \$10 each
2. **TIE** - For all scholars are available at office \$10 each
3. **P.E. SHIRTS** – For Junior and Senior Scholars available at the office \$20.
4. **P.E. KITS** – For Primary School Scholars ONLY (Shirt and Pants available at the office. \$30
5. **SKIRT** Khaki Full LENGTH – 2inches below the knee (front and back)
6. **PANTS** Khaki School Pants - No Cargo or tight fitted leg pants
7. **SHIRT AND BLOUSE** Formal Collar Cotton (Janae's Uniform Chesapeake or Sandys)
8. **SWEATER or JACKET** - **ALL BLACK**. ABSOLUTELY NO hoodies, NO stripes/designs/ markings.
9. **BELT** – ALL BLACK only – no visible name brands or logos should appear on the belt.
11. **SHOES** - ALL BLACK ONLY - School Shoes no stripes or other color.
12. **TENNIS** – All White OR All black. **NO neon, fluorescent or bright colors permitted.**

Students are NOT allowed to wear slippers;

| PRIMARY | JUNIOR | SENIOR |
|---|---|---|
| 1 to 6 Primary School | 7 to 9 Junior School | 10 to 12 Senior School |
| Shirt / Blouse with Crest Formal Collar Cotton | Shirt / Blouse with Crest Formal Collar Cotton | Shirt / Blouse with Crest Formal Collar Cotton |
| Boys - PANTS - Khaki Short Pants Grades 1-3 Long Pants Grades 4, 5 & 6 Girls - PLEATED Khaki SKIRTS - SKORTS permitted for Grades 1-3 | Boys - PANTS Khaki Long School Pants Girls - PLEATED Khaki SKIRTS | Boys - PANTS Khaki Long School Pants Girls - PLEATED Khaki SKIRTS |



FIRST WEEK BACK TO SCHOOL - AT A GLANCE

Monday, August 29th – Friday, September 2nd 2022

Monday, August 29th

- GRADES 11 & 12 SCHOLARS return

1. Silent Time - Welcome & Re-acquaint
2. Homeroom Teacher bonding - COVID 19 sharing
3. Principles of Ma'at Review
4. Goal Setting
5. Profession, Passion, Purpose
6. Review of school rules/code of conduct etc.
7. Technology contract & Commitment Statement
8. Moodle Refresher
9. Graduation & College Readiness Guide Review

Monday, August 29th 2022 -- NEW SCHOLARS

Thursday, September 1st 2022 ALL PRIMARY STUDENTS Return

1. Silent Time - Welcome / Meet & Greet
2. COVID 19 sharing - Orientation
3. Brochure & Guiding Documents Review
4. Principles of Ma'at Activity
5. Review of school rules/code of conduct etc.
6. Technology Contract & Commitment Statement
7. Moodle training and account set up
8. Homeroom & Subject Teacher introduction

Monday, September 5th 2022

ALL SCHOLARS Return

1. Welcome & Re-acquaint
2. Homeroom Teacher bonding
3. COVID 19 Protocols, Expectations and Guidelines
4. Principles of Ma'at Review & Activity
5. Reminder of school rules/code of conduct etc.
6. Reminder of Technology Contract & Commitment Statement
7. Goal Setting – Profession, Passion, Purpose
8. Multiple Intelligence on line test Skill selection/ Option selection
9. Reading program & required reading list
10. Spelling word list distribution
11. Student Portfolio requirements review
12. Council of Ma'at Recommendations & Elections
13. Run/Test the timetable
14. Baseline Assessments per subject





Akhepran International Academy Genesis

Eleven years ago, on August 10, 2011 Akhepran International Academy welcomed scores of prospective parents to its first meeting at the Kem En Het Heritage Center. Since its inception the Academy has taught more than the standard curriculum in order to prepare our scholars to become conscientious citizens and proactive, global leaders. Akhepran began as a Bring Your Own Device "BYOD" School where every child was mandated to use a laptop.

Our curriculum is designed to prepare our scholars to think, speak, organize and create ideas like a 21st Century scholar. Our philosophy or epistemology is "Trinity of Teaching". This idea includes helping students discern and decide upon their divine God given **SKILLS** (Passion), **SCIENCE/SUBJECTS** (Profession) and **SPIRIT** (Purpose for which they were born).

What does Akhepran mean?

The name Akhepran (pronounced "Ah-Kef-pran") is derived from an Ancient African Kemetic word called "Khepri", which refers to a scarab beetle. The scarab beetle was chosen for our school's symbol because the beetle is a very strong and resilient insect that can survive any natural disaster such as fire, volcano, flood and earthquake. Symbolically, the Khepri, also spelt Khepra beetle, means 'divine strength' and 'self transformation'. Our scholars are taught to stay calm, remain strong and never give up no matter what obstacle or challenge they or their family may experience in life.

The khepra beetle is very focused and disciplined and it uses the faeces or dung of other animals to roll into a perfect ball and then deposits its eggs into the ball where they develop for 28 days and then hatch. The beetle never gets distracted or lazy but instead it completes its job. Our scholars are encouraged to develop the same study and work habits of the khepra. Hence the name means for them to become **A khepra person (Akhepran)**.

Adinkra Symbols— The building stands tall as a constant reminder of the values and wisdom of our African ancestors as the symbols are strategically placed all around Kem En Het. They were created by our Bahamian sculptor and Iron wrought genius Tyrone Ferguson who got the inspiration while travelling throughout Ghana Africa. Each symbol has a very powerful and sacred meaning and have been used for over 500,000 years. Adinkra.org is a very good internet site to find out more about each symbol. Some of the themes and meanings are: Time changes and waits for no man, Beauty is within, Wisdom is worth more than gold, Respect for elders, Intelligence and Ingenuity, Unity in Family and Community, Strength and Self Discipline, Love, Forgiveness & Peace, Courage, Supremacy of God in all things— **Gye Nyame**.

Since 2011 our student population tripled and we have expanded our curricula subjects and learning opportunities for our scholars. Over the course of the past eleven years we have offered subjects including: Latin, Law, Tennis, Martial Arts, Sign Language, Mandarin, Snorkeling, Cosmetology, Culinary are few of the innovative courses we added. Scholars and teachers travelled to beautiful and historic Eleuthera, Andros, Cat Island and Grand Bahama. our Graduation and Leadership Retreat and College Tour to Universities in Florida was a special highlight pre COVID.

As we now conclude our **ELEVENTH (11th) Year** we are confident that the **Skills, Science and Spirit** components of our curriculum will manifest harmoniously to produce Excellence in Education and catapult Akhepran International Academy as a premiere 21st Century Learning Institution in The Bahamas post COVID. We thank God for 11 years of divine preparation and global performance during this school year.





School's Motto

"Teaching Ancient Wisdom and Values to Prepare 21st Century Global Scholars."

Mission Statement

To cultivate appreciation for the historical, spiritual and intellectual heritage of humankind. To train a new generation of scholars who will protect and improve our environment, economy, culture and civilization.
To educate scholars and produce conscientious global citizens.

Vision Statement

Teaching children to become conscientious citizens and proactive global leaders.

School's Logo & Crest



A school's logo is a symbol or graphic design intended to communicate or portray a school's spirit, theme or message. Our logo also shares images of the history, tradition, and philosophy of what is being taught at Akhepran International Academy. The school's logo was designed by Seba Ahmad Azzahir and later modified by Hasheen Lockhart (a former parent). The logo is used as a crest which is worn on our scholars' uniform. The meanings of the symbols within the logo are as follows:

Sun = Discipline, knowledge, light, life, illumination and enlightenment. "Lift up your head to the rising sun, Bahama land" (Timothy Gibson) The sun gives energy light and direction to every living organism on earth. The sun illustrates the creative symbol of discipline, balance and order as it rises each morning and sheds light on all the earth.

Khepra = Red bug or scarabeus beetle in the middle of logo represents rebirth, transformation, strength and resilience. The beetle has the endurance to survive natural disasters like earthquakes, floods and fires. Our students are encouraged to preserve no matter what trials and tribulations they encounter in their lives.

Scrolls = Two yellow lines behind the faces represent ancient papyrus paper which were used for sacred writings. We teach ancient values, lessons, stories and teachings from our ancestors, elders and grandparents.

Bible = The Bible holds the knowledge, history and heritage of our great ancestors. Student study the life, death and resurrection of Christ to learn that patience, love and wisdom are needed for effective leadership.

Feather = Is purity, righteousness, justice and reciprocity. When you die your heart has to be light as a feather. In 2nd Samuel 9:16, King David was pleased so he danced because his spirit (heart) was light as a feather.

Hair Strands = DNA helix strands containing grandparents DNA, mother and father genes and divine gifts.

Man & Woman = Male and Female divine complementary is the partnership of male and female working together for greater humankind and environmental good. God sustains life through man and woman uniting to produce children and working together as one.





Akhepran International Academy

School Prayer

O God, Divine Creator, Most High King of Kings, with reverence and humility, we present our Akhepran family to you. We give you thanks and praise for this moment and your many blessings. We acknowledge our imperfections and open ourselves to your divine forgiveness and guidance.

We call forth the manifestation of your spiritual richness, the presence of our holy ancestors, and abundant resources here at our school. Let your divine love be seen and felt through our Principal, parents, teachers, administrators and students. We are grateful for the ongoing expansion of AIA, and we pray that the vision and teaching of this school, will help us experience the wealth and abundance of your blessings which is our birthright.

Together, we will harness and attract the energies and spirits of all things positive and pure and ask for your wisdom and guidance when faced with those things that are not. When faced with adversities, give us the strength and patience so that we pray longer, love harder and smile wider. Help us to be discipline, still, and silent, so that we may receive your Divine Instructions.

Guide our hands, hearts, feet, minds and tongues, so that our thoughts, words and deeds remain in MA'AT of balance, righteousness, truth, peace and order. Make us unwavering as we take steps that lead us to our divine purpose and power. May our individual and collective consciousness bring harmony and balance, as we strive to do all things in the spirit of Ma'at.

May God, our ancestors and our families be pleased with all that we do. We Give thanks. Amen.

by Rhonda M. Wright



School Hymn

Here I am, Lord

Words & Music by Dan Shutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

CHORUS

Here I am, Lord. Is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

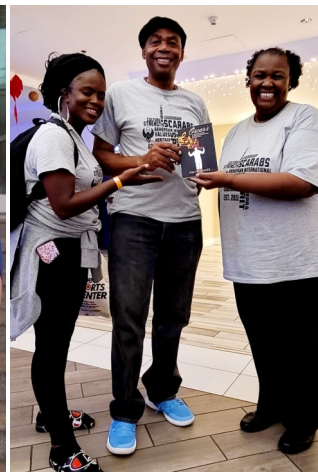
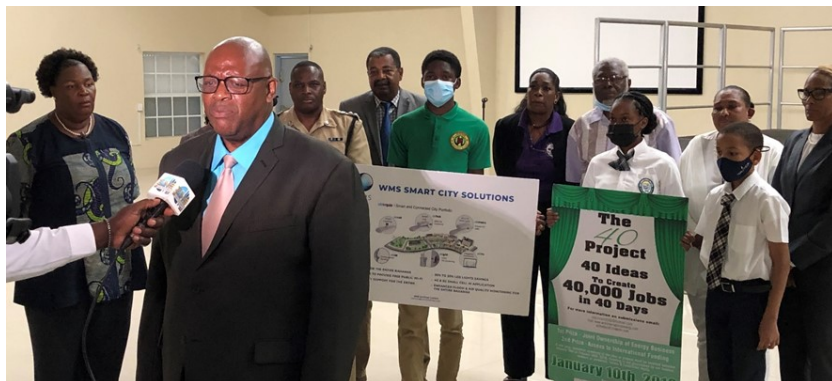
I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my peoples pain.
I have wept for them, They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone;
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send?

CHORUS

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them
my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?

CHORUS





School Pledge

I am a child of the creator Most High God.
 I am divine because the Most High God
 lives in me.
 I bless and praise God's name
 which is above all names.
 I honor God, my parents, my elders, my family,
 my school, and my community.
 I trace my roots back to Africa.
 I reflect the image of my great ancestors who
 harness my true identity.
 I claim my great heritage, history and legacy.
 I show gratitude for ancient knowledge by
 teaching others how to value it.
 I enter each day with confidence, patience,
 strength and endurance.
 I fill each day with grace, dignity, integrity,
 confidence, and respect for all.
 I seek truth, balance, order, righteousness,
 morality and justice.
 I allow pure thoughts, words and deeds to
 flow from me.
 I accept life's difficult journey and use divine
 powers to help me.
 I use my spiritual gifts to create symbols,
 mythos, harmony, and peace.
 I am victorious when I exult
 the sacred things of life.
 I am a global leader and humble citizen.
 At the end of my life, I will celebrate one love,
 one body, one mind, one spirit;
 Because I am... You are... We are...
Hotep! Maat! by Amunet Eneas

The Principles of Ma'at

1. I honor virtue
2. I benefit with gratitude
3. I am peaceful
4. I will not take what does not belong to me
5. I affirm that all life is sacred
6. I give offerings that are genuine
7. I live in truth
8. I regard all altars with reverence
9. I speak with sincerity
10. I consume only my fair share
11. I offer words of good intent
12. I relate with others in peace
13. I care for animals with love
14. I can be trusted
15. I care for the earth
16. I keep my own council of Ma'at
17. I speak positively of others
18. I remain in balance with my emotions
19. I am trustful in my relationships
20. I hold purity in high esteem
21. I spread joy and give blessings
22. I have not terrorized, bullied or teased anyone
23. I communicate with compassion
24. I listen to opposing opinions
25. I create harmony
26. I invoke laughter
27. I am open to Love that creates
28. I am forgiving and kind
29. I express my thoughts without fear
30. I act respectfully towards others
31. I am aware of diversity
32. I follow my inner God Self
33. I converse with awareness
34. I strive for excellence always
35. I have not polluted my body, mind, or spirit
36. I keep the waters pure
37. I speak with good intent
38. I praise all manifestations of God
39. I am humble
40. I achieve with integrity
41. I advance through my own abilities
42. I embrace the Almighty Creative God

HOTEP! MA'AT!

Dear Akhepran Parents,
MY PROMISE TO YOU

www.mrdsdcorner.com

I promise you every day your
 child will learn something.

Some days they will bring it
 home in their hands.

Some days they will bring it
 home in their heads,

and some days they will bring
 it home in their hearts.

- Valerie Welk -





Akhepran International Academy

Mrs. Lakisha Ingraham - Principal

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Nassau, Bahamas

Phone: (242) 324-8683 or (242) 324-9212

Email: ingraham.lakisha@akhepran.com



‘CELEBRATING 12 YEARS OF DIVINE AUTHORITY & PERFECTION!’

Dear Akhepran Scholars,

As your teacher I promise you that I will always be in one of 3 places:

in front of you to cheer you on • behind you to have your back • and next to you so that you aren't walking alone.

Sign: Akhepran Teachers



Giving Thanks for many Happy Memories and Monumental Successes during COVID

