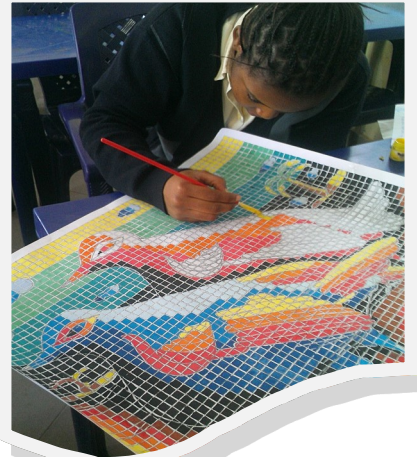


EIS PTA Newsletter

Essence International School, Kaduna, Nigeria June, 2016



Special points of interest

- PTA Highlights and Parents' Forum pages 2 and 3
- Library Reading Club Newspages 4 and 5
- Tribute to Teachers and Laugh Like a Child.....Pages 6 and 7
- Treatment and Prevention of Lassa Fever, and Help Your Child Develop a Reading Habit pages 8 and 9
- Activities pages 10 to 18
- Principal's Message page 19
- Day of the African Child and Juneteenth page 20

Artistic Interpretations

Employing a combination of patience, skill, and creativity, Essence students produce harmonious works of art in mosaic form.

Art and design have recently captured the imagination of many adults who now use crayons, paints, and colored pencils to illuminate adult coloring books.

Highlights of PTA General Meeting held on Friday, November 13, 2016

Parents Forum

The house was informed of an upcoming parents' forum which would focus on the J.S. students and SS1-SS3 students respectively.

Recognition of Ibrahim Dawule Baba

The School Administrator, Hajia Hadiza Mohammed informed the house of a just concluded UNICEF Charity Shield Polo Tournament in which an SS3 student of the school, Ibrahim Dawule Abba won the most valuable player and was rewarded with a '301' Peugeot car. She further stated that his stellar performance was an impressive achievement and wished him well in his endeavours.

Book list for students

Hajia Hadiza Mohammed also reminded the house of the school's proposed book list for students. Recommended books would be made available to be purchased by parents for students.

Financial Report

The Financial report was presented by the Financial Secretary, Mrs Evelyn Asuku. There is a bank balance of four million, two hundred and thirty-nine thousand naira (N4,239,000.00) only

Principal's Message

The Principal's message was read out by the School

Administrator, Hajia Hadiza Mohammed who

captured the following highlights.

Appreciation to the Exco for their commitment and dedication to service.

Increase in school fees with consideration for the economic realities of the day;

This will take effect in September, 2016 .

There will be a Parents forum for students of SSI-SS3 with special invitation to parents.

We recognized two staff members, Mrs. Ter and Miss Vera Theophilus who had attained five years in the school

P.T.A. GENERAL ELECTIONS: The P.T.A. General elections held and the entire set of Exco members were re-elected for a second term in office except for the posts of the Financial Secretary and the Internal Auditor who have both served two terms in office. The following are the P.T.A. Executive members 2015-2016 (elected on November 13, 2015)

1. Mrs Hadiza Ali Tatari- President
2. Engr. Siraj Abdulwahab -Vice President
3. Mrs Jamila G. Audu- Fin. Secretary
4. Mrs Hafsat Bukar - Treasurer
5. Mrs Amina Lere - P.R.O.
6. Alhaji Muhammed Lukman-Internal Auditor
7. Alhaji Abdur-rasheed Mustapha -Ex-Officio
9. Mrs Evelyn Asuku -Ex-Officio
10. Mal. Omar Soba- Social Secretary
11. Mr Francis Akaeze - Secretary
12. Miss Assumpta Dagat -Assistant Secretary

Clarifications were given by the school administrative team led by the School Administrator, Hajia Hadiza Mohammed.



Journal: Highlights of the E.I.S. Parents Forum held on the 5 of December 2015 at the secondary auditorium Essence International School:

The forum commenced at 10:00 am. With opening prayers by the moderator, Mr Seth Kerchiri.

The Welcome address was given by the school administrator, Hajia Hadiza Mohammed who thanked all parents and teachers present.

The forum was attended by sixty-three parents and twenty-six teachers.

Parents and teachers received booklets and bulletins which contained issues to be discussed point by point.

Observations, comments and contributions were made by parents and teachers.

Clarifications were given by the school administrative team led by the School Administrator, Hajia Hadiza Mohammed.

BEE HAPPY

This is a calendar on honeybees sent to the T.O .S team by the Principal, Mrs DL Mohammed .

The T.O.S team under Mrs C.J Okoye, (the coordinator)

drew out worksheets on honeybees for various

Levels of students on honeybees (from primary 1 to primary 6)

The worksheets also included projects on honeybees e.g bee masks, honey combs, charts etc.

Below is a sample of one of the worksheets. The worksheets and projects were graded by the T .O. S teacher for each level. The students learnt a lot about honeybees from the "Bee HAPPY" calendar.

PRINCIPAL'S

MESSAGE Continued from page 19

The school calendar for this term will be presented by the school executives. There are 3 events in June which we normally host and celebrate. These include:

The Spelling Bee for LEA Unguwar Rimi Primary School.

Hosted by our school-based NGO, The Open Classroom, this event is proposed for **June 2nd** at LEA Unguwar Rimi. This will be our 10th annual Spelling Bee, and we are inviting all members of the Essence PTA Executive to participate and support the students who have been trained by our own Essence Teachers in Reading and Spelling.

The Day of The African Child–

June 16: This UN International Day commemorates the sacrifice of South African children in the SOWETO uprising. We have special activities planned for this day.

JUNETEENTH– June 19th: The Freedom Day for former American slaves. We normally recognize this day because of its significance for all people who are free from oppression.

Early in July, for the first time ever, we will have an **Africa**

Knowledge Quiz for Primary 6 graduating students. The winner will receive a special trophy and recognition during the primary 6 graduation. All primary 6 students have been given the announcement to show to their parents, and we hope that many of them will voluntarily choose to participate in this activity.

All PTA Executives are invited to attend and participate in our special events including graduations and community service.

Thank you,
D. L. Mohammed
Principal



EIS Reading Club News

The Reading Club has been providing reading experiences since 1999.

Our Motto is as follows:

Books are Keys to wisdom treasure

Books are ships to lands of pleasure

Books are paths that up-ward lead

Books are friends come let us read.

Our main objective is to cultivate the reading habit into our members through poetry, chorus reading, music, plays and word games.

The students take books every week, read and try to make a small book report.

To enrich the reading experience the club has many activities such as educational excursions.

We have taken trips to the airport, the Fire Services, Radio stations and the local museum. We have put on small plays and presented them in school.

A few other activities are board games and costume book parties. This year we had our first book fair, where we raised

money for books for DSFDC (Demonstration School for Deaf Children).

The importance of reading can never be overly emphasized. Reading is one of the most important skills needed for every profession in the world. You can encourage your children to read by allowing them to have as many reading experiences as possible.

by Rosalind D. Ede, EIS School Librarian



Readers club members having fun at the recent Costume party organized for club members.



Readers club excursion to the Kaduna Airport with Mrs. Rosalind Ede.

EIS Reading Champions

For the past couple of years, Essence has had a very interesting contest taken up by a large number of ambitious students called the 100 (one hundred) Book Challenge.

Many students participated in the challenge and in this contest there are no losers, only winners because every reader is a winner. The experiences and knowledge gained from reading itself is the ultimate reward.

However like all contests there are those that meet the challenge head-on and are triumphant and are crowned the champions. The past winners of the 100 book challenge are:

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------------|---|------|
| Salome Akutson | 113 | - | 6C |
| Jocelyn Ajijola-Oluwa | 48 | - | SS1A |
| Jerome Obi | 38 | - | SS2B |
| Love Solomon | many books | - | SS3B |

Here is what the winners had to say about the challenge and about their reading habits:

Why did you participate in the 100 Book Challenge?

Salome Akutson: I love reading, so I decided to try it.

Love Solomon: I love challenges and competitions because even if you lose or win you are a winner. Losing a contest helps you know your weak areas and the areas you need to work on.

Jerome Obi: I enjoy reading.

Jocelyn Ajijola-Oluwa: I participated because I love reading novels. I wanted to see how creative I am in writing and to build up my vocabulary.

How did you stay motivated throughout the year?

Salome Akutson: Through the reading club my loving Mum and my sister kept me motivated during the year.

Love Solomon: I love reading so I didn't need too much encouragement. But the thought of winning the Trophy helped.

Jerome Obi: I stayed motivated because reading is my passion and it wouldn't hurt to write summaries of what I have read.

Jocelyn Ajijola-Oluwa: My motivation is my passion for reading and the fact that I could learn new words.

Do you have a favorite author?

Salome Akutson: I don't really have a favorite but I like Caroline Keene, Rachel Renee and R.L Stine.

Love Solomon: Nora Roberts is my favorite author.

Jerome Obi: Rick Riordan is my favorite author.

Jocelyn Ajijola-Oluwa: My favorite is Chimamanda Adichie.

What advice would you give to encourage others to read?

Salome Akutson: Reading is fun. The more you read the more you grow.

Love Solomon: Great readers have great minds. Just start reading and you will be shocked at the height it will take you.

Jerome Obi: Give reading a chance because once you start, you won't want to stop.

Jocelyn Ajijola-Oluwa: Once in a while you should read something you like.

Tribute To Teachers



Mrs. Titilayo Buti
School Counselor

Those being referred to as teachers in this discourse are those whose life-long career has been teaching. Those who are dedicated to the profession. Those who are passionate about the work they do. Not those who could not get a job and fell back on teaching as a stop gap.

The following describes or lends credence to the work a teacher does, who he is and what he is to the society.

“The goose that lays the golden egg”

The engine-room/power-house/Automated Teller Machine -----

There is no doubt that the more the deposit into an ATM, the more the depositor can withdraw. The better an engine is cared for the better its performance. The more loaded a power house is----- the more powerful it becomes. For golden eggs to be laid by

the goose, the goose has to be well treated, nurtured and cared for.

For any society to develop – Teachers’ needs ought to be met. According to a popular saying “no society can rise above the quality of its teachers”. Why? It is because teachers shape the minds of the youths who eventually become leaders and policy and decision makers.

Teachers should be invested in by way of making them as comfortable as – Politicians, Doctors, Lawyers, Military personnel----- . They should be given special allowances as doctors have call duty allowance, holiday allowance, bonuses that the above mentioned get. Teachers deserve to work in attractive environments with “state of the art” teaching aids. They also deserve to be trained and re-trained not in worn-out or dilapidated structures but in decent and befitting organized workshops and seminars.

Governments need to as a matter of urgency begin to treat teachers fairly and with equity too – most especially in Africa, if the African society is to be transformed!

To conclude, teachers have such great qualities that without the afore-mentioned requirements and plights, they still strive to nurture, mold and transform the young minds.

The effort which teachers put into their work is hereby recognized and appreciated.

Laugh Like A Child



Mrs. Obiageli Nwanne
P.E. Teacher

I read that the average child laughs more than two hundred times a day, but the average adult laughs fourteen to seventeen times daily. The pressures of life, stress and more responsibilities steal our joy little by little as we grow older. Just because we are no longer children doesn't mean we're supposed to be solemn and never have any fun. Most adults are borderline grumpy a good part of the time. But every healthy adult should hold on to that child inside. Know how to work, but also know how to play.

A study said that one of the traits shared by those who live into their nineties is that they take joy in everyday life. Laughter is their best medicine. A friend of mine had a good-humored grandmother who lived to be 103 years old. When she went in to the hospital at the age of one hundred, my friend called and asked her what was wrong. "Well, so far they've ruled out pregnancy," she said. I met someone just like her in our church visitors' line a few years ago. She was a very healthy and sharp ninety-six year old lady. Her skin was beautiful. Her eyes were bright. But what struck me most was how happy she was.

It appeared she'd never met a stranger. Everyone around her was her best friend. She was hugging all the people in the line. She was wearing a bright colorful dress and was a breath of fresh air. After we talked, I hugged her. As I was leaving, I just said in passing, "I believe when I'm ninety-six years old I hope to look just like you."

She leaned over and whispered in my ear, "just don't wear the dress."

I thought, No wonder she's so healthy. She still has a sense of humor. She still knows how to laugh.

Her good humor was like a healing light flowing through her body. I want to follow her examples as I grow older. I've made up my mind that I'll never be a grumpy old woman. I will not let myself grow more and more sour the older I become. I'm staying full of joy. When it's my time to go, I'm leaving with a smile on my face, a laugh in my heart, and a joke in my pocket.

Treatment and Prevention of Lassa Fever in Nigeria

Lassa fever or lassa hemorrhagic fever (LHF) is an acute viral hemorrhagic fever caused by the lassa virus and first describes in 1969 in the town of Lassa, in Borno State, Nigeria. Lassa virus is a member of the Arenaviridae virus family, similar to ebola.

Lassa fever is mainly found in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, and Nigeria and is spread by rats, (Natal Multimammate Mouse).

MODE OF TRANSMISSION: The virus may be spread to humans by: Direct contact with infected rodent urine and droppings, through touching objects or eating food contaminated with these materials, or through cuts or sores. Breathing in tiny particles in the air contaminated with rodents excreta. Eating an infected rodent. Person-to-person contact with virus in the blood, tissue, secretions, or excretions of an individual infected with lassa virus.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS: While lassa fever is mild or has no observable symptoms in 80% of people infected with the virus, the remaining 20% have a severe multi-system disease. Incubation period is between six to 21 days after exposure and include: Fever, facial swelling, muscle fatigue, conjunctivitis and mucosal bleeding. Other symptoms arising from the affected organs are:

Gastrointestinal tract: Nausea, Vomiting (bloody), Diarrhea (bloody), Stomach ache Constipation
Dysphagia (difficulty swallowing)
Hepatitis

Cardiovascular system

Pericarditis Hypertension (High blood pressure)
Hypotension (Low blood pressure)
Tachycardia (abnormal high heart rate)

Respiratory Tract

Cough, Chest pain, Dyspnoea, Pharyngitis

Pleuritis

Nervous system

Encephalitis

Meningitis

Unilateral or bilateral hearing deficit.

Treatment: An antiviral drug (Ribavirin) has been used with success in lassa fever patients. It has been shown to be most effective when given early in the course of the illness. Supportive care consisting of maintenance of appropriate fluid and electrolyte balance and treatment of any other complicating infections is encouraged.

Prevention: There is no vaccine for lassa fever. The best prevention is to avoid contact whenever possible with infected people, as well as with rodents.

Here at E.I.S., the preventive measures taken during the outbreak of the ebola virus is still in progress and re-inforced with additional materials provided by the school management such as use of face-masks, hand gloves as well as effective personal hygiene, which is being encouraged in the school in view of the recent outbreaks which have claimed many lives in some states across the country.

By School Nurses: Mrs R.L. Ayuba
Mrs H. Kabala



Help Your Child Develop A Reading Habit

It has been rightly said that readers are leaders. Encouraging your child to develop a reading habit early in life can open up in him/her love for books for the rest of his/her life. Reading encourages a quest for knowledge and helps academically. Reading can help him to develop research skills. There are things not taught in school that can be picked up from reading.



Nobody is born an avid reader – it is a habit that can be developed. The more one reads, the better one becomes at reading. Reading also helps children to increase their attention span.

Here are some things parents can do to help their children develop a reading habit.

READ WITH YOUR CHILD: Young children really enjoy the company of their parents. Spending time to read with your child can help him/her associate reading with fun. In the early years, reading to your child helps build his vocabulary. It is also important to encourage your child to try to read on his/her own. That skill improves with age.

APPROPRIATE BOOKS : Buy your child the appropriate books for his /her age and mental capacity. Buy one for yourself too.

Books such as: Coloring books, Puzzle books – cross word, word search, puzzle games, Story books, Picture books, Investigative books, Novels (fiction, non fiction, historical) Scientific books, Autobiographies, Encyclopedias, Discovery books, Thesaurus, and Dictionary

These books develop the brain, the mind, the thinking capacity, reasoning power. They teach critical thinking, problem solving skills, analytical skills, and they work on the imagination. Reading also builds endurance, patience, and perseverance in the child.

QUESTIONS: Ask questions on books being read by the kids. You may not wait till a book is finished. Ask deep probing questions which stimulate thinking. Ask the child to summarize what he/she has read or the entire book. This helps the child develop a good memory and his/her ability to retain stories, recall facts, and get sharper both at home and in school.

To conclude television viewing time must be scheduled by parents for children. Children learn faster by what they see/watch. More educational programmes should be viewed by children. Same goes for phones, laptops and other electrical gadgets. Time spent on them needs to be restricted, not only because they are distractive but because of health hazards too !!!

Children should be involved in physical activities around the house. This makes them physically fit, agile, active, and smart.

Tips from: Mrs T.T. Buti & (Emem} FB Learning Model Schools

ACTIVITIES

**N
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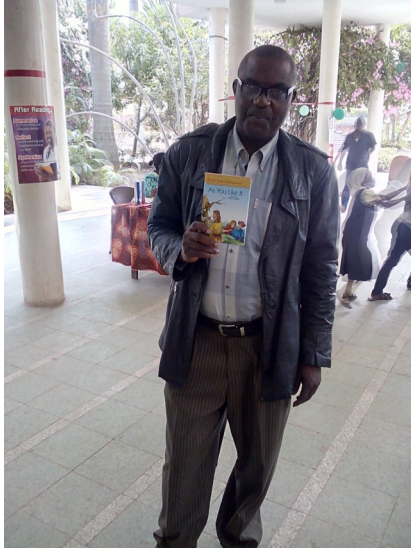
Hi Dolores, Thanks for letting me know that muffins were used for a nursery school tea party. That (along with the pix) really warms my heart. So glad everyone enjoyed them, and that the kids are getting early exposure to the kitchen. Thanks again! Warmly, Jenn..... Once Upon a *Chef*

Comment from Jenn Segal, whose recipe we used for the nursery 2 muffins.

FIELD DAY



SCHOOL LIBRARY



Mr. Sauma Uzo Supporting Reading Club Book Fair Fund-raiser for Demonstration School for Deaf Children's Library



Parent Supporting Reading Club Book Fair Fundraiser for Demonstration School for Deaf Children's Library



Reading Club Book Fair Fund Raiser for Demonstration School for the Deaf Library



Senior students using the library during break time



Reading Club Costume Book Party

AND READING CLUB



EIS Reading Club during a visit to **Dalema Bakery**, enjoyable and educational



Teachers Supporting the Reading Club Book Fair Fundraiser for Demonstration School for Deaf Children's Library

SECONDARY STUDENTS RIDE THE ADULT TRICYCLE



ESSENCE TEACHERS IN FOCUS



French Teachers received an award for their outstanding participation at Alliance Française and ECOWAS

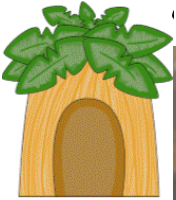


A professional development workshop organized for the nursery staff members of Essence International School, Kaduna.



Mr. Nok rides the tricycle

READING WITH THE PRINCIPAL



Abdulhakeem Matazu 2D



Aisha Abdullahi Adamu
2C



Aisha Mataza 5C



Aisha Suleiman 5A



Aliyu Masaya 5D



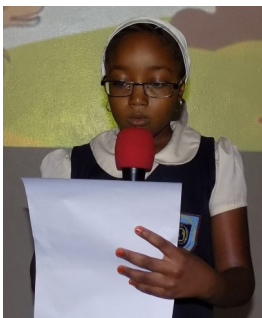
Fahad Baba Sambo 5B



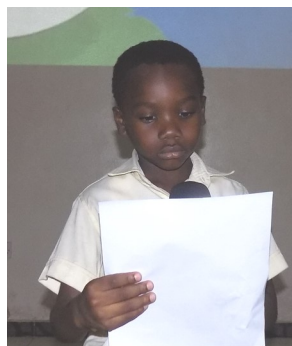
Amina Hussaini Jallo
5B



Amina Baffa 2B



Amatullah Yusuf 5E



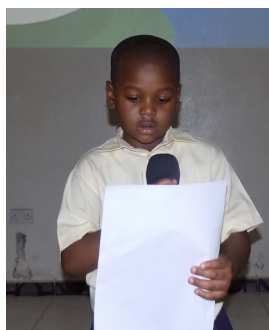
Ezrael Olayinka 1B



Fatima Babangida 1B



Ikmat Oyewale 1E



Bello Abdulrauf 1D



Hafsat Atiku 2D



Hajara Abubakar 1C



Naziha Audu 1C



AT THE AFRICAN HERITAGE VILLAGE



Humaira Sadiq 5D



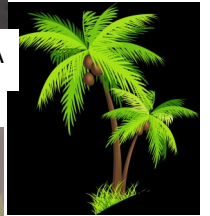
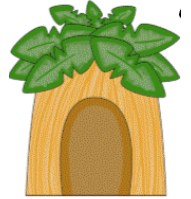
Maryam Sadiq 1B



Mohammed Aliyu 2E



Mohammed Garzali 1A



Muslim Tahir 2A



Nabil Shuaibu 2E



Nadiya Adam 5C



Ummul Khairi Ashiru 5A



Sylvester Ahmadu 2C



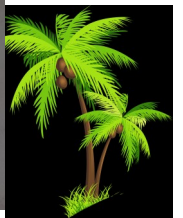
Yasmin Garba 5A



Zainab Ilyasu 1A



Rahma Sodangi 1E



Iman Yazid 5E



We read Aesop's Fables and recorded our readings. All the main characters in the stories are animals, and each story teaches a lesson. The aim is to improve comprehension, pronunciation, and writing skills. Each student is encouraged to make a recorded reading. This is useful for gaining confidence in public speaking, acquiring composure and poise, and improving diction and pronunciation.

PRIMARY 6 READING, SPELLING, AND GRAMMAR



L-R: Al-Mustapha Lere 6C, Ta'ahir Grillo 6A, Praise Akutson 6B, Hayatudeen Bashir 6A, and Abdulqadir Jega 6C



Araoluwa Ayanbadejo 6C, Fatima Babagana 6A, Maijidda Laka 6A, Aisha Umar 6C, Motunrayo Awomodu 6A, Abeer Ahmed 6C, and Sadiya Jokolo 6C (L-R)



Primary 6 Girls



Students listening to a health talk

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

May 2016

For the school year 2016-17 we plan to increase our school tuition in order to continue to offer a quality education to our students and to make improvements in the academic and social climate where they study and develop. We will focus upon:

Basic educational offerings: We plan to amplify our basic curriculum with supports from educationally researched study materials. They include books, audio-visual materials and technological equipment, both hardware and software which will assist the teachers in lesson planning. They will also expand and enhance staff access to research materials in the basic areas of Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies, the core subjects for a solid foundation.

Infrastructural developments: We propose to acquire more educational equipment in order to provide opportunities for the students to develop their special talents and interests. So many children demonstrate special abilities at an early age, but these may not be recognized when the curriculum does not allow for the inclusion of a variety of activities that complement the academic program.

Opportunities for staff development and recognition: Our staff need to be adequately compensated for their services and dedication. They also need opportunities for professional development and training in their areas of specialization and in educational technology and pedagogical principles. Teachers fully accept the role of nation builders, exerting an incalculable influence on the attitudes and morals of the youth. Without their sacrifices there would be very little national development. The gateways to training at the local, national, and international levels should be open to them as career educators who train and hopefully inspire the next generation of leaders. We would endeavor to bring in professionals for staff development and send out our own professional staff for training, planning, and networking with their peers from different parts of the world. In this fashion we will be acting locally with a global perspective.

THIRD TERM OVERVIEW

This term is typically one of our busiest because of the four graduations and Prize Giving Day. Yet there are other special days that we traditionally acknowledge because of their importance in our school life and our recognition of the need to actively participate in nation building. We invite parents to join us not only in celebrating the achievements of our students during graduation and other school ceremonies, but in their active involvement in the community of world affairs and global progress.

continued on page 3

CELEBRATING

The Day of the African Child June 16

Each year on this date we commemorate the lives of South African students who took a decisive stand against the inferior education they were receiving during the South African Apartheid regime. This unjust government enforced the separation of races and introduced a policy whereby South African children would be taught in Afrikaans, the Apartheid language spoken only in South Africa. When the black students protested in the streets against this, many were attacked and brutally shot down. This is the 40th anniversary of that event which took place in Soweto. Young people today must not relent in their struggle for a quality education.

JUNETEENTH- Freedom Day

Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. Dating back to 1865, it was on **June 19th** that the Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and that the enslaved were now free, all throughout the Confederate South. It was hard for some of the slaves to pronounce June 19th, hence "Juneteenth." Although President Abraham Lincoln signed the emancipation proclamation in 1863, a civil war had to be fought and won before the slaves were actually freed.



M. Ahmed Mahamat Padja

28 Dec. 1964 – 29 March, 2016



It is with a sad heart that we, at Essence International School, Kaduna, announce the death of our beloved French Teacher, M. Ahmed Mahamat Padja who departed this world on March 29, 2016, after a brief illness.

Mr. Padja was a teacher in Essence for fourteen years, having joined our staff in January 2002. He was dedicated, and comported himself as a professional teacher who treated everyone with respect. He lived in harmony with his colleagues and was loved by his students.

I knew him as a quiet and dignified person who was at ease and in balance with his environment. He was a perfect gentleman, sincere and honest.

On behalf of our staff, our student body, and our parents, I extend our heartfelt condolences to his family in Nigeria and abroad. Our immediate thoughts and sympathies reach out to his four children and extended family here in Nigeria. We are devastated by his loss, but we bow to the will of The Almighty, and pray for the perfect repose of his soul. Farewell, dear M. Padja.

By D. L. Mohammed
Principal