news from the trunk

Thursday, September 22, 2011





A Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,

The world is changing at such a rapid rate and I am sure that there are many parents like me who just sit back and wonder at how much technology has changed our lives over the past 20 years. The proliferation of computers and the advent of the internet have undoubtedly changed our lives for good and, in general, the world has become a better place because of these two inventions. Part of our role, as a school, is to teach our children to embrace this technological age and to be an active part of this revolution.

Over the past few years here at KAS we have upgraded our computer lab and even added a second lab to increase the availability of computers to all classes. This year we also introduced Ipads into the Elementary and Early Childhood sections of the school, while also making Moodle an important part of our communication systems.

The biggest news, thus far, has been the commencement of our One-To-One pilot program in Grade 9. Each student was, this week, given a netbook computer which they now move around the school taking from class to class. This immediately allows these 9th graders to access a computer anytime of the day. With our campus being wireless they are only a click away from accessing the internet.

I am sure that this positive move by the school will be embraced by our community, and its expansion in the coming years will truly move the school and our students well into the technological future.

I hope that you all have a great weekend, and I look forward to seeing most of you at the PTA Picnic tomorrow.

A Letter from the Elementary Principal Ben Voborsky

A Technology!! The Technology!!

Technology and technology integration have always been a valuable component of the curriculum at KAS. For 21st century learners, the knowledge of technology is not a choice it is a necessity. Gone are they days of library card catalogs and encyclopedias, everything is digital now, and the new colloquial verb "Google" is upon us. The present day quest for information and questions posed are now commonly answered with "Google it" and the ability to access information has never been this available. The question of "old school" or "new school" has passed. Technology and the Internet are here to stay. Now it is our responsibility as educators and parents to increase our students ability to work in this new era.

Here at KAS we are definitely "New School!"

In every division from early childhood to high school technology has continued to be introduced. Early childhood and elementary have I Pads in their classrooms. All courses are utilizing web-based resources and technology integration abounds.

Elementary has access to IXL.com, an online Math site designed to advance all learners. Please sit down with your student, log in, and see what IXL has to offer. This is just the tip of the iceberg.

The big news is the one to one pilot program has kicked off! Our Grade 9 class has been chosen as the pioneer class to work out the kinks! That is correct, every Grade 9 student is now equipped with another KAS learning tool, not another textbook, but a netbook capable of holding over 1,000 textbooks! Grade 9 is paving the way for a school wide initiative to be kicked off next year. KAS will be a one to one school. The future is now and it is exciting!



The One to One Pilot Program is ON!

KAS is a student-centered school; our mission is to make students' learning our number one priority. As a technology educator, my job is to ensure that we prepare our students for the future. They are 21st century learners and will be applying for jobs that do not yet exist. We need to be sure we give them the skills needed for their future. Technology is developing everyday and moving quickly towards cloud computing, which means digital content will shift from individual computer to the Internet.

Our students today are digital natives who were born into a world of computers, laptops, iPods, cell phones, and other electronic equipment. Educators of today have to be sure they are using the tools of tomorrow and not of yesterday. As the world's technologies change, we must change. If we do not, we will be left behind.

I am very pleased to announce that KAS is starting the one-to-one laptop pilot program. Grade 9 has been chosen to launch this program. Laptops were given to all 9th graders last Sunday, September 18, 2011. Students are very excited about it and they are eager to use their laptops in the classroom. We are hoping this program will be a successful one and that in the future more grades will be included.

> KAS Technology teacher, Ms. Egbal Mohamed

Greetings from High School English!

The past few weeks, several of my English classes have been diligently working on crafting statements of personal philosophy – we call these "This I Believe" essays. Based on a radio program from the 1950's in the United States, these short statements are a place where people can share a belief and its impact on their lives.

Students have written on serious topics such as religion, heart-warming topics such as the love of parents, and have even touched on the comical and light-hearted. Here is an excerpt from a writer in the senior class, Mengfei:

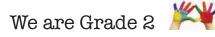
"If there is one thing in the whole world that I believe completely, it is the existence of eternal love.

My mom proved it to me by doing everything she could to make me happy, by giving me all her love and requiring nothing in return. I am fortunate to finally get a chance to do something for her, just to make her happy. This conflict ended up with her staying in China for her job, and me going to Sudan for my high school.

Surprisingly, the distance changed nothing between us – it only made our relationship closer."

Feel free to stop by the High School English classroom to check out posters and essays from the many other talented writers in the high school. Perhaps you'll be inspired to write your own belief statement!

> High School English Teacher, Ms. Tiffany Kelley



What is guided reading you may ask?

During Languages Arts, each day we take time for guided reading. Guided reading helps us not to just be able to read words, but teaches us strategies to understand the meaning of text.

So what is a strategy?

A strategy is a plan to help you achieve something. So a reading strategy helps you to achieve understanding of the text, another word for understanding is comprehension. Throughout the year we will be exploring new reading strategies to help us understand text, including self-monitoring, predicting and visualizing. For more details about these strategies and more, please visit the Grade 2 moodle page!!!!!





Here are the Winner's from last week: Nathanael Grade1, Youssef Grade 2, Arjun Grade 3, Kristina Grade 4, Justin Grade 5 and Tony Grade 6.



Elementary School Math problem:

Grade 1: Use the "count-on" strategy to add: 38 + 5 =____

Grade 2: <u>Identify the pattern</u> and **fill in the blanks** to continue it. 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21, 23, 24, _____, ___, ___, ____, ____, ____, ____, ___, ____, ____, ____, ____, ____, ____, ____, _____, _____, ____, ____, _____, _____, _____, ______, _____, ______,

Grade 3: Mrs. Kirby made a basket while standing <u>71</u> feet away from it. Mr. Kirby made a basket while standing <u>57</u> feet away from it. What was the **difference** between Mrs. Kirby's and Mr. Kirby's distances from the basket?

Grade 4: I have two sets of opposite equal sides. My opposite sides are parallel. My opposite angles are equal measures. I am definitely a ______

Grade 5: Write the prime factorization for 54.

Middle School Math problem:

Mr. Gunderson rode his bicycle 8 miles in 25 minutes. What was his average speed in miles per hour (mph)?

High School Math problem:

A jeweler has five rings, each weighing 18 g, made of an alloy of 10% silver and 90% gold. He decides to melt down the rings and add enough silver to reduce the gold content to 75%. How much silver should he add?

Solutions from the last week: Grade 1: 17, Grade 2: Pattern: even, odd, odd, next two numbers: 15, 17, Grade 3: 6x3, 12+2, 21-3, XVIII, 9x2, 8+10, 100-82, (5x2)+(4x2), 3x3x2, 18x1, Grade 4: b, 90° , Grade 5: 684, Middle School: 10 cents, High School:

Circle one:			
High School	Middle School	Elementary School	
Name:		Grade:	
Answer:			2

KAS Student Council Kicks Off

Looking For Leaders!

Wednesday, the 28th of September, all middle and high school students will elect new member of the KAS student council. On the same day, candidates will give a brief speech outlining why he or she is well suited for the job and ask for their fellow students support.

Iman and Saba are running for President, so if you see them around campus, ask them why they would be a good President. Remember, vote for the individual you think would do the best job and not the person you like the most.

After officers are elected class representatives will be chosen. Do you have what it takes to represent your class?



Dates to Remember

Friday, September 23, 2011	PTA Famuly
from 4:00pm - 7:00pm	Picnic
Thursday, September 29, 2011	PTA Bake
from 11;31pm - 12:24pm	Sale
Tuesday and Wednesday, October	Presentation by
4 and 5, 2011 at 7:30pm	Dave Zakem
Thursday, October 27, 2011	International
from 7:00pm	Potluck Dinner

KAS Parent/Teacher Association



Friday, September 23, 2011 from 4:00pm – 7:00pm

What to bring:

- Blankets
- Food
 Cooking and eating utensils
- Cooking and eating uten

Items for sale:

Drinks and cakes

Available at the school:

- Equipment for sporting: balls, hula-hoops...
 BBO grills will be available
- BBQ grills will be available for cooking your meats

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PTA Bake Sale

Dear KAS Parents,

The KAS PTA (Parent/Teacher Association) will have a Bake Sale on the last Thursday of each month. We need your delicious contributions to make this Thursday a sweet success!

You can simply send your homemade treats with your child on the day of the Bake Sale (Thursday). The treats may be dropped off to Ms. Haska in the Library.

All proceeds will go to the KAS PTA. If you would like to contribute, please contact us at pta@krtams.org.

Suggestions: Brownies, cookies, popcorn, pancakes, cakes, cupcakes, donuts, etc.

Thursday, September 29, 2011, during lunch from 11:31am - 12:24pm