news from the trunk Thursday, October 11, 2012

Parent Teacher Conference



No School for Students

Khartoum American School

Letter from the Superintendent, Mr. Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,

Next week we will be hosting our first Parent-Teacher Conferences of the 2012/2013 school year. This is always a wonderful event because the great deal of hard work that has taken place over the past six weeks can be celebrated and the progress of each and every child can be put into its rightful context.

Far from being a one-way monologue where teachers talk and parents listen, we encourage parents to share their thoughts, their ideas and questions so that a true partnership can be established. Now that Engrade and Edmodo are up and running parents will already have a good indicator as to their child's progress, but nonetheless nothing is better than good old fashioned face-to-face talking.

We believe that having this conference a little bit earlier in the year is beneficial because any problems or concerns can be spotted early and solid relationships can also be established between school and home, right from the start of the school year.

While there are always issues to be resolved and a lot of hard work to be done at their conclusion, the Parent-Teacher Conferences are generally happy occasions that involve lots of praise and gratitude being lavished on all participants.

I look forward to seeing you all there, and as always have a great weekend.



Positions Avaliable at KAS for School Year 2012/2013:

- Elementary ESL Teacher
- Special Education Teacher

Please send a covering letter and CV to ghughes@krtams.org

HEADS UP FOR THE TALENT SHOW!!!!

We would like to invite you to participate in the Talent Show during the International Potluck Dinner Program. The date to note on your cell phones and in your diaries is November 29, 2012. So now is the best time for you to decide what you are going to do. Whether it's organizing a musical, singing a song or dance numbers, get started now! All those interested participants may contact Mrs. Didith Lanario at 0123699938 or at 0912207734. You can also email her at dlanario@krtams.org or lorimarlanario@yahoo.com

Letter from the Elementary School Principal, Mr. Ben Voborsky

We have had an exceptional start to the 2012-2013 school year. Every KAS community member has been focused on teaching and learning. Every KAS student has shown improvement. As the first quarter comes to a close teachers are excited about sharing our progress with parents! This means: Parent-Teacher Conferences have arrived! You have already received an invitation for parent-teacher conferences and the teachers at KAS are looking forward to seeing you! If the invitation made it into the school bag, but not into your hands, please let me be the one to invite you to Parent-Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, October 17th. For Early Childhood and Elementary students, a friendly reminder of your scheduled conference time will be sent home on Tuesday, October 16th, so be on the look out!

Before attending parent-teacher conferences next Wednesday here are a few suggestions to help you prepare your parent-teacher meeting.

- Introduce yourself to the teacher, and let the teacher know where you can be reached. Email is often the most convenient means of communication for both parents and teachers, so make sure your email is up to date
- Ask for further information about Edmodo, the new online form of communication in elementary.
- Develop 5 questions specific to your child.
- Make a list of positives and negatives related to your child
- Say a few words about your child's special interests and positive qualities.
- Ask questions, such as, what is the class going to cover this year, and how can I help? What can we do at home to help?
- Remember to take notes and discuss them with your student.
- Volunteer to help out. Let the teacher and the principal know when you're available. You could help chaperone or organize a field trip, be a guest reader, or be a classroom parent. But don't bite off more than you really have time for. Whatever you decide to do, it is important to be consistent. Be someone the teacher can count on.

We look forward to seeing you at Parent Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, October 17th.







It is fun to learn French in Elementary school. After some revision with Grades 3 and 4 we started a new unit, A L'école "in the school". In this unit the students are learning the names of objects found in a classroom and around school. They are also becoming familiar with the vocabulary that is used in a classroom, such as 'write down the date', 'go to page'. This is done through many activities such as: matching words with pictures, drawing, listening to audio CDs, singing, playing with puppets, reading poems and books.

Crayons de couleur (Crayon Colors), is a French poem that is being taught to Grades 3, 4 and 5. Grades 3 and 4 are reviewing the colors through the poem while grammar usage is introduced through the poem to the fifth graders. The poem was shared with the Elementary school during Assembly.















We are grade and we are and we are

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Johnny (aka Mr. C). I have travelled over land and sea from the great land down under and found myself even further from home than the ten thousand miles it took to get here. The streets, the sights, the sounds and the smells are all more foreign than one could have ever imagined, but strangely it seems that grade one is the same the world over.

We have our obstacles and we go through tough times just like any working partnership, however, as all you parents will know, there is something heart warming about the genuine nature of elementary school. Seeing students use the long lost language of youth to help each other understand something that you could not find the words to explain, seeing the entire class exploding with excitement at their first swimming lesson or witnessing that 'light bulb' moment when one of your students makes that critical connection and understands a new concept.

These are just some of the moments that Ms. Erini and I enjoy every day. It is quite profound how the trials and tribulations of a six-year-old can give your life so much perspective.







Winners: Anna-KG, Imnet-G1, Ashu-G2, Aayaan-G3, Tawfeeg-G4, Rafiza-G5 Celeste-G6 Noah-G7.

Elementary School Math problem:

Kindergarten: What is the number before two and after two?

Grade 1: What is the value of a penny? What is the value of a nickel? What is the value of a dime? What is the value of a quarter?

Grade 2: There are 20 bricks. Someone brought 4 more. How many are there? Write the number sentence and solve. **Grade 3:** Write five number models with 25 as the target

number. **Grade 4:** Draw an example of concentric, non-concentric

and tangent circles. **Grade 5:** List the first five prime numbers.

Middle School Math problem:

What could you be buying if the cost is: 8 for 25¢; 21 for 50¢; and 347 for 75¢? It is a logical purchase.

High School Math problem:

Two fishing boats depart a harbor at the same time, one traveling east, the other south. The eastbound boat travels at a speed 3 mi/hr fater than the southbound boat. After two hours the boats are 30 mi apart. Find the speed of the southbound boat.

Solutions from the last week:

Kindergarten: 0,2; **Grade 1:** 100; **Grade 2:** Answers will vary; **Grade 3:** \$1.15, No; **Grade 4:** Concentric circles don't overlap, have the same centre point and a different radius size. Non-concentric circles overlap/intersect; **Grade 5:** Answers will vary; **Middle School:** 14 guppies; **High School:** The wire used to construct the circle is 190.9 inches long and the perimeter of the square is 169.1 inches long.

Γ	Circle one:			\neg
X	High School	Middle School	Elementary School	1
ı	Name:		Grade:	با
•	Answer:			X



Goodbye



The Learning Center is simultaneously happy and sad. Mr. Robel has received an opportunity he cannot refuse, to study in the U.K. It means we must suddenly say goodbye, but it also means we can say congratulations and hello to a new addition to the Learning Center.

Welcome Yonas!

PTA Family Picnic

The first PTA event of the year will be a *Family Picnic* and this will be held on *Friday, the 19th of October, from 14.00pm -- 19.00pm*.

This will be an excellent opportunity to have our entire community come together in a relaxed atmosphere and the chance to unfold a blanket and enjoy the school grounds with other families.

So dress up or wear black, yellow and/or white and don't miss out on all the fun.

We will be having soft drinks, cakes and hotdogs on sale and families can even use the school BBQs to grill their own meat.

Notes from the MS Council,

Special thanks to all the parents who baked goods and sent items for our MS cookie & milk sale. We raised nearly 600 SDG and are now much closer to our goal of having a MS dance in November. Also, we are actively looking to hire a D.J, for this event. We welcome any recommendations from parents & students.

Sports Update

On Thursday, October 4th, the Under 12 Boys and Girls were actively participating in games. The Boys Under 12 Played three games at KICS and they were fantastic. They won all three game because of their devotion and perseverance, keep it up. The Under 12 Girls performance in the game against KICS was admirable. Their game was a tie. On Tuesday, October 9th, the Under 15 and Under 18 boys played at KICS and they did an excellent job enjoying themselves. On Wednesday we had 3 games. The girls Under 15 and Under 18 played both games at KICS and they had fun winning both games.

 Under 15
 KAS 10
 KICS 8

 Under 18
 KAS 32
 KICS 14

The third game was at KAS, our Under 18 and 18 years old boys joined together to play against the Philippines team, in which they showed teamwork, dedication and determination.

Adult Sport: We are expanding the program by adding an extra day for Soccer, so come and enjoy your selves playing Soccer ever Sunday and Thursday.