

# n e w s

news from the trunk

Thursday, January 16, 2014

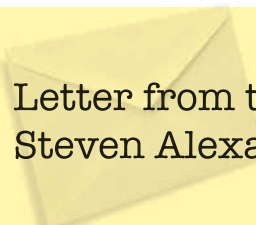


## GREEN FEVER

### **Session 3 ASAP Begins**

From Sunday, January 26 to Wednesday, March 5, 2014





## Letter from the Superintendent, Steven Alexander

Dear KAS Community,

Welcome back to the start of our second semester. I hope you all had a relaxing and restful break.

This is an important time of the year for a Superintendent because a great deal of my work is interviewing and researching high quality teaching candidates to fill vacancies we will have at KAS next year. I will be attending one of the best recruiting fairs for international school teachers from January 28th to February 4th at the University of Northern Iowa in the U.S. This is the oldest international teacher recruiting fair which began in 1976. There will be close to 700 candidates at the fair. I have already set up interviews with about 20 candidates at this fair. All of them are from the U.S.

I am extremely pleased to let you know about two vacancies I have recently filled for next year. Dave Lauchmen, an American with over 20 years of experience as a Learning Center teacher, will be coming to KAS to be our Learning Center Coordinator. Dave has experience in all areas in his field. He spent much of his career teaching in the U.S. and is presently working as a teacher in this area at the International School of Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia. Dave has been there for the past three years. I know he will be a great addition to our staff.

Just this week, Darryl Philip Centers, a Principal with a variety of experience, has signed a contract to be our Elementary School Principal next year. Darryl is also an American who most recently worked as a Principal at a school in Saudi Arabia. Darryl also has a lot of experience as an Elementary Teacher (grades 1 through 5) in his career in California. Darryl comes highly recommended and I feel KAS is fortunate to have a leader with his knowledge and experience in American education. Darryl will come with his wife Juliane Rothan-Centers who is also an American and presently teaching in Bahrain. She and I will speak soon to determine her teaching position next year.

I want to switch topics and speak briefly about student use of computers at home. One of the most important issues a parent has to address, especially in the 21st century, is knowing what their children are accessing on the internet. All children need guidance and limits about what they access. It is very important that parents discuss this with their children. It is even better when parents have time to work on a computer with their children. It is a great activity to do with your child. I will address this issue again in future newsletters.

Steven Alexander



## The PSAT: How did you score?

In October, most 10th and 11th grade students took the PSAT. This is a practice test that matches closely to the SAT, a standardized test required for most college and university admissions. The PSAT assessed the following skill areas: Mathematics, Critical Reading, and Writing. This test is only practice, and does not get reported to colleges or universities, or affect your high school grade point average.

### Where can I see my score?

To see your results, you need to logon to your College Board account ([www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)) using the email address you provided on test day. You also need to provide your legal name (as you stated on your test, as well as what is listed in your passport). If you do not know this information, please see me as soon as possible.

### Ok, I logged in. Now what?

There are 4 major parts to the PSAT/NMSQT Score Report: Your Scores, Your Skills, Your Answers, Next Steps.

### Your Skills Section

The "Your Skills" section is a valuable part of your PSAT/NMSQT results, showing you a complete picture of how you performed on the different skills tested by the PSAT/NMSQT. Take a closer look to see where you did well and where you might want to improve. The same skills are tested on the SAT. To get more practice before you take that test, try the hundreds of practice questions available online at [www.collegeboard.org/quickstart](http://www.collegeboard.org/quickstart).

### Review Your Answers Section

The middle section of the report is the "Review Your Answers" section. You will be receiving your test books back from me soon. Using your actual test book will help you make the most of the "Review Your Answers" section, since you'll be able to go back to questions you got wrong and, with the help of the explanations available on [www.collegeboard.org/quickstart](http://www.collegeboard.org/quickstart), figure out why.

### Your Educational Plans

Read this section to see how well your future plans match your current interests and skills, as well as the courses you will be taking.

On your answer sheet, you provided: Grade Average and A College Major Of Interest.

Your report gives a description of what college students learn and do with the major you indicated. It also notes skills important to that major and high school courses you should take. Check the AP potential message for what steps to take to help you get ahead.

It's now up to you to use your resources to prepare for the SAT! College Board has a wealth of practice questions, full tests, and study strategies to help you get started. You can also use the SAT Study Book available for sale in the school office, or for checkout in the school library or my office.

Please see me with any questions you might have,

Mrs. Ross  
Counselor

## GREEN FEVER AT KAS

WANT TO SAVE THE WORLD? YES, WE CAN!

By taking small steps within our own communities, we can make a difference. In our own school community, we are kicking off our Campaign for a Green School! Our high school students will be leading the campaign by focusing on three main areas that they prioritized:

- Raising awareness by making posters, presentations etc. For the whole school on REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE and other environmental messages.
- Doing weekly clean up drives.
- Digging compost pits for organic food waste.

We are so excited to be starting this campaign and hope it will help us become more environmentally and ethically aware global citizens.

"A JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES STARTS WITH A SINGLE STEP" - LAOZI

## TIGER CLASS GROWS!

Happy New Year and welcome back! Our class has grown in size, with two new friends joining in. After the long winter break, our young students seemed recharged and well rested. Many have grown significantly, and their features look amazingly different.



It took us just one day to adjust to the usual routines, discover the new resources available in the classroom, reconnect with old friends and welcome the new ones. During this term we will continue our investigation of the alphabet, engage in more math adventures, and pursue our interest in science. As they have progressed through all developmental areas, our children can now be an integral part of the decision making process about what they would like to learn or deepen their understanding about. At the moment we are investigating 'people'. In order to support such interest, we provided dress-ups and tools related to some well known jobs (fireman, nurse & doctor, policeman, construction worker, chef). Many children were able to make the connection with real people they know, such as their pediatrician, the school nurse, and the people preparing meals at the kiosk. Some of them remembered the fire drill exercise, with the siren going off, and the staff bringing around the fire extinguishers. We are looking forward to the coming months and all the development that will take place, supported by the daily explorations. So there is lots of excitement and fun on the horizon!

Ms. Ivana, Ms. Hope, Ms. Yeng & 19 fabulous tigers.

## Do Not Neglect Your Mother Language

According to the British Council, English has official or special status in at least seventy-five countries with a total population of over two billion. With this in mind parents may ask themselves if it would not benefit their children to be raised in English rather than in their mother tongue.

However, parents who decide to focus on English at the expense of their home language will do their children a great disservice.

It is important to ensure that a child is well grounded in her mother language as many skills acquired in the first language can be transferred to the second language. So, for example, if your child has developed good reading skills in her home language, she is likely to be able to apply these skills when reading English. For this reason it helps if you can encourage your child to read good fiction and non-fiction in her own language. Similarly, the skills of being able to plan out a piece of writing or develop an argument in a persuasive essay can be applied in the second language once they have been learned in the first.

Providing your children with exposure to other languages and cultures at an early age is one of the greatest gifts you can give. Among the most important benefits is that children gain an ability to understand and communicate with people from different cultures and countries.

In addition, numerous studies have shown the cognitive benefits of early language learning, suggesting the following:

- Children who learn second languages are more creative and better at solving complex problems.
- Students of foreign languages score statistically higher on standardized tests conducted in English.
- Children who learn a second language at a young age develop the ability to speak with native proficiency.
- Foreign language study sharpens memory and listening skills.

As we look at a world under threat with several extinct or threatened species, we should turn our eyes to ourselves and ensure that our languages and cultures do not become extinct because of neglect and a desire to become global citizens.

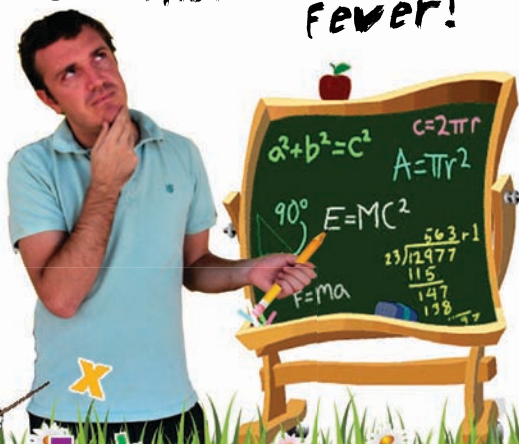
Sources:

British Council  
Frankfurt International School  
Penrith City Council



To **Have Someone Over A Barrel** means that somebody is totally at the mercy of third parties and unable to have any influence over the circumstances surrounding them. In medieval Britain it was standard practice to drape a drowning, or drowned, person face down over a large barrel to try and clear their lungs. As the victim was usually unconscious it was obvious they were totally reliant upon third parties and whatever action they took would determine their fate. Not really an ideal situation to be in for many reasons - especially in the Navy.

? Thursday Morning Fever!



## Mr. C's Amazing Math Contest

### Elementary School Math problems:

**Kindergarten:** Circle the one that weighs MORE:



**Grade 1:**  $17+2=$  \_\_\_\_\_ is this an odd or even number?

**Grade 2:** Show two different ways to make 55 cents.

**Grade 3:** How many degrees are there in a right angle? How many degrees are there in a circle?

**Grade 4:** Solve the problems:

- 8 apples cost 30 cents each. What is the total cost?
- There are 60 sleeves of golf balls, with 3 balls per sleeve. How many balls are there in all?

**Grade 5:** Write a number story that fits  $\$600/5$ . Then solve your number story.

### Middle School Math problem:

Santa Claus is putting lights around 8 windows; each window is 3 and 1/2 feet wide and 5 feet long. How many feet of lights does he need so he can circumvent the windows with no extra lights remaining.?

### High School Math problem:

Daniel Burnham designed and built the 22-story Flatiron Building in New York City in 1902. The base of the building is a triangle bordered by three streets: Broadway, Fifth Avenue, and East Twenty-second Street. The Fifth Avenue side is 1 ft. shorter than twice the East Twenty-second Street side. The East Twenty-second Street side is 8 ft. shorter than half the Broadway side. The Broadway side is 190 ft. Find the two unknown side lengths.

**Solutions from the last week:** Grade 1: 26, 27, 31, 32, 34; Grade 2: 25; Grade 3: 600; Grade 4: a)80 miles b) 280 miles; Grade 5: 79 cars; Middle School: 200; High School:  $-5 < x < 6$  or  $(-5,6)$ ;



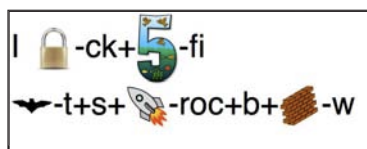
### Last Week's Winners

Elroi (Pre-K), Shatikshi (Kindergarten), Alan (Grade 1), Boki (Grade 2), Mehrubon (Grade 3), Neeka (Grade 4), Hazim (Grade 5).



EVERY WEEK, WE WILL BE ADDING REBUS PUZZLES TO THE NEWSLETTER. PLACE YOUR ANSWERS IN THE REBUS BOX IN THE LEARNING CENTER. TWO WINNERS WILL BE RANDOMLY SELECTED EACH WEEK, AND WINNERS WILL RECEIVE KIOSK COUPONS. AT THE END OF THIS SEMESTER, WINNERS WILL BE INVITED TO A ... **PIZZA PARTY!**

Elementary School Rebus



Middle and High School Rebus

Give Get  
Give Get  
Give Get  
Give Get