

NEWS FROM THE TRUNK

THURSDAY OCTOBER 23RD 2014

THE 21ST CENTURY CHILD



KAS



HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30 12-2:05 PM

Letter from the Superintendent, Dr. Robert Beck

Dear Parents,

For those of you who were able to attend last night's Parent Teacher Conference Night, I hope you found the evening informative and enjoyable. A characteristic of an excellent school is the establishment of open and frequent communication with parents. Parent Teacher Conference Night is one of several opportunities at KAS for parents to meet and communicate closely with teachers. Notable last night was the presence of many students who joined in the conferences. This openness to having students participate in parent-teacher meetings is also an indication of a school culture that encourages open communication among all its stakeholders.

If you were not able to attend Parent Teacher Conference Night, and you wish to meet with your child's teacher, do not hesitate to contact the teacher(s) now or in the future for an individual appointment. I have shared with you in other E News messages that students are served best when we (the school and parents) use a team approach in support of student learning. Through frequent communication and through collaborating with you, we model for students what it means to be a part of a cooperative team effort. In a sense, their education at KAS becomes a real-life experience in the power of community collaboration. We know that cooperation and collaboration are necessary and important life skills. That is why I encourage you to speak with your child about their school day, about classroom projects they are involved in and, about the extra-curricular activities they are participating in. This connects you to their school and it builds a strong sense of cooperation and collaboration.

Our teachers and principals look forward to working closely with you and with your children. Of course, I do too. Our team approach to the education of children is what makes KAS stand out as a school where students thrive!

Letter from the Middle/High School Principal, Susan Boutros

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

At KAS we celebrate student achievement, which is why we would like to invite all parents to celebrate with middle and high school students and staff at our First Quarterly Awards Assembly on Wednesday, October 29th from 7:30am-8:00am in the Quad. Students will be presented award certificates in the following categories, which align with the 4 C's of our Mission Statement:

Curriculum:

-Golden Honor Roll - students will receive this award if they received all A's on their 1st Quarter report card.

-Blue Honor Roll - students will receive this award if they received all A's and B's on their 1st Quarter report card.

Character/Citizenship/Community

-Perfect Attendance - students will receive this award if they attended all days of school during the 1st Quarter.

-Character Award - student will receive this award after being nominated by a teacher who feels the student has demonstrated good self-discipline, a positive self-image,

and a strong sense of personal commitment and dedication to his/her own learning.

-Citizenship Award- student will receive this award after being nominated by a teacher who feels the student has demonstrated the ability to reflect upon their own world and the world around them and is developing the skills required to make positive changes worldwide. Students who earn this award have shown the ability to embrace the diversity present at Khartoum American School and celebrate the fact that it makes us a richer school community.

-Community Award - student will receive this award after being nominated by a teacher who feels the student has demonstrated he/she is a cooperative, communicative, productive, and responsible young adult who views themselves and our school as integral parts of the global community. We hope to see you all there!

Letter from the Early Childhood Center & Elementary School Principal, Phil Centers

Dear Parents and Friends,

Last week I wrote about a special After School Program Activity (ASAP) opportunity for your children to participate in: a production of the Chinese musical, *The Nightingale*, produced and directed by Mr. Ghirmay. I am pleased to share that 35 students in grades 3 through 7 signed up and showed up for the first session of this production yesterday. And we know that several other students wanted to join the production but couldn't because of prior after school commitments. This is a fine testament to the health of the Arts in the Khartoum American School.

The Arts are a crucial component of our KAS Curriculum – one of the school's 4 Cs that we have been exploring this year. Too many schools in the U.S. and around the world have dropped the Arts from their curricula. One could say, "for the wrong reason," but is there ever a right reason to cut such a vital component of the curriculum? Budgetary reasons? Not a good enough reason. Time constraints? A terrible reason!

The fact is that without a training in the Arts the human being becomes only partially developed, and so becomes in a way handicapped, somewhat like being illiterate or innumerate. Considering this aspect of any balanced curriculum as disposable is a little like saying, "Well, I'm running short on time, or money, this week, so I'm not going to sleep – just can't afford to." Such a stance, of course, would be ludicrous, and impossible. Human beings must have a healthy dose of sleep on a nightly basis, and we must have a healthy dose of right brain nourishment and stimulation on a regular basis as well. The research and evidence all backs this up, and it is only ignorance that would suggest otherwise.

Art is not logical in rational terms. It can't be figured out intellectually. It must be felt, embodied, and acted out. Thus it engages our heart and our will, along with our right brain, a combination that is uniquely nourishing for the human being. Like vegetables and fruits, exercise, love, and all the other good things of life, the more of the Arts we can incorporate into our daily and weekly regime, the better for us and for our children. Here's to a beautiful week, month, and year, and to a delightful production of *The Nightingale*!

PS If you'd like to nourish yourself with some Art, you may want to consider volunteering to help with the production of *The Nightingale*. Please contact Mr. Ghirmay.



IS SPLENDID

As Ali (a KAS student) wrote: at first thought, one might think that science is thinking of complicated solutions or mixing chemicals together to see what the outcome is. But "for me, science is everything." Anis (a KAS student) wrote "Science is part of everyday life and is very important." Sci- the root word of science means 'to know'. Sixth, seventh, eighth and ninth graders have been learning that they do science all the time. In fact, they have been learning 'to know' ever since they were infants exploring the world. They have realized that learning often entails observing and watching, making logical guesses and then trying something out (experimenting)- often repeatedly, researching, articulating and refining and expanding previous knowledge – all skills and activities of a scientist. So in science class we are simply continuing to develop these lifelong skills and habits while exploring the amazing, awesome phenomena and dynamics of life, earth and sky, sound and light.

In science classes last quarter the 6th graders studied the physics of sound. The highlight of the unit was playing drinking goblet glasses lent to us and making instruments of their own to play. We are beginning a unit on the physics of light.

The 7th graders learned about the earth's atmosphere and climates. A highlight of the unit was the research each student did about one particular climate and presented to the class. In 7th grade, we are beginning a unit on astronomy focusing on the moon, sun and stars.

The 8th graders studied rocks, minerals and the tectonic theory last unit. They worked in groups to research igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks and fossils. A highlight was looking at the diverse forms of rocks, minerals and fossils. We are beginning a unit of planetary and galactic astronomy.

Finally in 9th grade Biology, we began with the Chemistry of Life – working with the themes of metabolism, photosynthesis and nutrition. We will continue our study of life in a unit on Plant and Animal Life and Ecology.

It is my hope that every one of my students comes to really know that they ARE scientists, now, already – and actively engages in the scientific process that they already do- with more awareness, intention and skill. Because "Everyday all of us do experiments – we just don't realize it." Sebastian (a KAS student)

Juliane Rothan-Centers
MS/HS Science

MR. MANN'S MATH MINUTE

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MATH PROBLEMS:

KG	COMPLETE THE PATTERN BELOW: ■ ● ▲ ■ ● ▲ ---,---,---
GRADE ₁	WRITE THE MISSING NUMBER IN THE SEQUENCE: 1, 2, 3, 4, _ 6, 7, 8, 9, _ 11, 12, 13, 14, _ 16, 17, 18, 19, _ 21, 22, 23, 24, _ 26, 27, 28, 29, _ 31, 32, 33, 34, _ 36, 37, 38, 39, _ 41, 42, 43, 44, _ 46, 47, 48, 49 _
GRADE ₂	WHAT IS THE REAL VALUE (HOW MUCH IT'S WORTH) OF THE 6 IN THE NUMBER 469
GRADE ₃	GIVE TWO EXAMPLES OF A NUMBER GRID AND TWO EXAMPLES OF A NUMBER LINE.
GRADE ₄	IN THE NUMBER 97,613, WHICH DIGIT IS IN THE TEN-THOUSANDS PLACE? WHAT IS ITS VALUE?
GRADE ₅	NIKA READ 45 PAGES OF A BOOK EVERY NIGHT. HOW MANY PAGES DID SHE READ IN THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER (30 DAYS)?

Last weeks solutions:

KG: (0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20) **G1.** (5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45), **G2.** (<), **G3.** (Measurement, weight, temperature, locations, distances, size, etc), **G4.** (5,000), **G5.** (2*2*2*5 = 23 * 5)

Last weeks WINNERS are!



- KG. Lesley
- G1. Shatakshi
- G2. Cameron
- G3. Mina
- G4. Kishan
- G5. Aayaan

Don't forget to submit your answers!

Ross's Rebus

LOOKING FOR OUR ANSWERS!

Elementary Rebus

Middle & High Rebus

Teacher's Rebus

Last week's solutions:
Elem: Reading is amazing!
MS/HS: Soccer or football?
Teachers: Only two months down?

Last week's WINNERS are!
Elem: Adam Fazili gr. 5

Announcement: Basketball

**KAS vs. UHS
Monday, October 27, 2014
@ 15:00**

**KAS vs. UHS
Wednesday, October 29, 2014
@ 15:00**

Week 1:
Coachable Attitude for Middle School and High School



Sport is about more than winning on the scoreboard. It's about helping you become better people who will succeed in life after you no longer participate in sports. We want you to fulfill your potential as individuals who will make the world a better place.



We will do that by helping you become impact competitors, focused on having three levels of impact by improving yourself, your teammates and the game as a whole.

Having a coachable attitude is the key to becoming an Impact Competitor. Having a coachable attitude means being a sponge, willing and able to absorb everything that can make you a better player and us a better team. We want you to be curious.

Reflection questions:

I want you to ask at least one question every practice. Find a partner and share something that you want to learn to do better this week.

KAS Sports quote of the week:

'The only way to overcome is to hang in. Even I'm starting to believe that'

-Dan OBrien



Hanro
Athletic Director

English saying

To **Push The Boat Out** is used to describe a large celebration or expense. This is obviously a nautical expression and relates to the large parties and celebrations sailors would have before setting out on long voyages. A **'pushing the boat out'** celebration was always a popular one to attend.



Minette van der Bijl
High School ESL Teacher