

NEWS FROM THE TRUNK

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 2015



CLASSES ARE IN FULL SWING!

KAS

Wednesday, January 28th Four C's Ceremony



Letter from the Superintendent, Dr. Robert Beck

Dear Parents,

I am away from the campus for a few days during the annual recruitment of new overseas hires. I will be in the US. During my absence, Susan Boutros, HS/MS Principal, will be acting superintendent. Susan has filled in as acting superintendent in the past. She is an expert at what she does and her actions are always in the best interests of the school and children. Thank you Susan!

I have been asked from time-to-time what criteria I use in selecting staff. First and foremost is making sure the candidate has the proper "skill set" to carry out her/his responsibilities as a main stream teacher or specialist teacher (such as a counselor or special education teacher). But that is never enough. The teachers who I select must have a record of demonstrated commitment and dedication to helping every child move to their next level of academic, social and emotional developmental excellence. They must be able to differentiate instruction so that all children's needs are met. They must show that they have a 'passion' for teaching. They must be able to successfully communicate with the age and grade level student they will be teaching or supporting as a specialist. They must demonstrate excellent interpersonal skills in communicating with parents, their principal, and with their faculty colleagues. They also must demonstrate 'flexibility' in adapting to a new school environment and country.

These are several of the criteria I use when searching for and interviewing prospective teachers and specialist candidates. We want the best teachers at KAS. The children deserve only the best! When the recruitment season is over in mid to late February, I will be announcing the new staff to the community and attach their bio data.

TO REMIND-A Survey has been sent to you regarding the start of school time. Please fill out the survey as soon as you get it. Your input is very important!

Letter from the Middle/High School Principal, Susan Boutros

Our 2nd Quarter Four C's Awards Ceremony will be held next week **Wednesday, January 28th at 8:30am** in the Quad. Come and celebrate middle and high school student achievement in Curriculum, Character, Community, and Citizenship. All parents are welcome to attend. Coffee, tea, and cake will be served.

Next month, KAS will be having its 2nd Annual Career and College Fair events. The Career Day & Career Fair, which will be held at KAS on Wednesday, February 11th, exposes students to a variety of professions available to them after graduating from high school. The College Fair, which will be held at the US Embassy on February 25th, allows students to learn about the variety of post-secondary opportunities available to them after graduating high school.

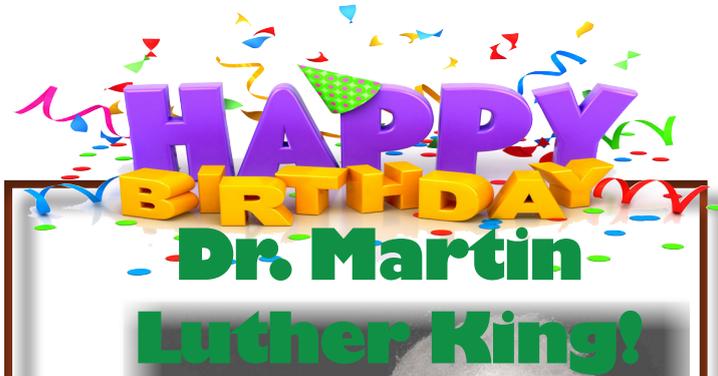
The success of both of these events depends on parent and community volunteers. If you, or someone you know, are willing to give up some of your time to speak with our students about your career and/or the university you attended, please contact me. A letter was sent home with all students this week describing the details of each event. Kindly email me or return the form sent home with your child as soon as possible. Volunteers are needed for:

• 45-minute presentation on your career/profession (February 11th between 8:30am – 11:30am)

• Staffing a booth at the Career Fair & answering questions of students about your career (February 11th from 5pm-7pm)

• Staffing a booth at the College Fair & answering questions of students about your alma mater -where you graduated from/attended university (February 25th from 10am-12pm)

This year, Ms. Katee Ross is hoping to diversify each event by including more representation from different career fields and from colleges and universities from more areas of the world (e.g., the Middle East, Africa, Asia, the UK, Canada, etc.). Please help in making this year's events a success!



Martin Luther King Jr. Day was celebrated in the US on Monday, January 19, 2015. It is an American federal holiday, which is observed on the third Monday of January each year.

Do you know who Dr. King was?

Trivia Questions:

1. When was Martin Luther King Jr. born?
2. What did Martin Luther King Jr. study?
3. When did Martin Luther King Jr. deliver his famous speech "I have a dream...?"
4. What were his dreams?
5. Why was Martin Luther King Jr. awarded the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize?
6. When did Martin Luther King Jr. die?
7. Where is he buried?
8. When was Martin Luther King Jr. Day signed into law?
9. Which president of the US made this holiday possible?
10. When was the holiday first observed?

Mattie Boyce

English Saying

To Chance Your Arm is to take an uncalculated risk, where the outcome is completely unknown: a blind bet, if you like. There are several suggestions for the origin of this saying, one being that military men, whose rank was displayed in the way of stripes on their sleeves, would take battlefield risks, which could equally lead to promotion or demotion, depending on the outcome.

A better explanation (at least one that is more fun) dates back to Ireland as long ago as 1492. During a feud between two distinguished families, the Kildares and the Ormonds, Sir James Butler, the Earl of Ormond, and his family took sanctuary inside St Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin. The Kildares laid siege outside until Gerald Fitzpatrick, the Earl of Kildare, decided the feud had gone too far and attempted a reconciliation. But the Ormonds were suspicious of his offer of peaceful settlement and refused to leave the cathedral. As a desperate measure to prove his good intentions, Fitzgerald ordered a hole to be cut into the cathedral door and then thrust his outstretched hand through, putting his arm at the mercy of those inside, as it could easily have been cut off. Instead, Butler took his hand and peace was restored. It is not known if that is actually the origin of the phrase, but it should be.

Minette van der Bijl



CONGRATULATIONS! YOU HAVE BEEN EXITED FROM ESL.

Over the last 30 years there has been an intensive study of how a second language is learned, but as yet no one has been able to come up with a comprehensive theory. However, most logical and convincing theories of language learning have suggested that language is acquired, both in the language and the mainstream classrooms. This takes place when the students are motivated by the task, feel low or zero anxiety, and have had their self-esteem protected. If such conditions are implemented, and the input is comprehensible, then there is no obstacle preventing the natural acquisition of language.

As mentioned above, ESL students learn English not only in the ESL classroom but also in their mainstream classrooms. Whereas the mainstream teachers are language teachers too, working on maximizing the language learning opportunities of the ESL students in their classes.

Usually, students remain in the ESL program until they demonstrate the language and skills necessary to work independently in the mainstream classroom. All of the following criteria assist the ESL teacher in determining the students' ability to cope effectively in all mainstream classes, and when they do not require any direct assistance from the ESL teacher anymore they are exited. Upon exiting the ESL program, the students' language skills continue to be monitored.

ESL exit criteria checklist:

- Proficiency tests
- Teacher recommendations
- Mainstream classroom performance



I would like to congratulate four of my dear students for successfully exiting from the ESL program last semester. The star students are Mohaned (Grade 5), Iskander (Grade 3), and Minatalla and Iman (Grade 2). They all worked very hard and always gave their best effort in all areas of the ESL classes. They have produced some powerful work to be extremely proud of. I am sure that the upcoming challenges will inspire them to reach their full potential.



Congratulations!!!!

Salma Saeed
Elementary/Middle School ESL Teacher

Embracing Digital Education

The growth of the technology surrounding us is increasing dramatically. Adults became obsessed with their smartphones and the new gadgets coming out every day. In the educational field, teachers usually feel overwhelmed with all the technologies surrounding their students and how it is affecting their way of learning. Parents fear the safety of their kids while they are using their computers at home.

I have been asked many times by parents, especially elementary parents, to share some tips that could help them in monitoring children's use of the laptop at home.

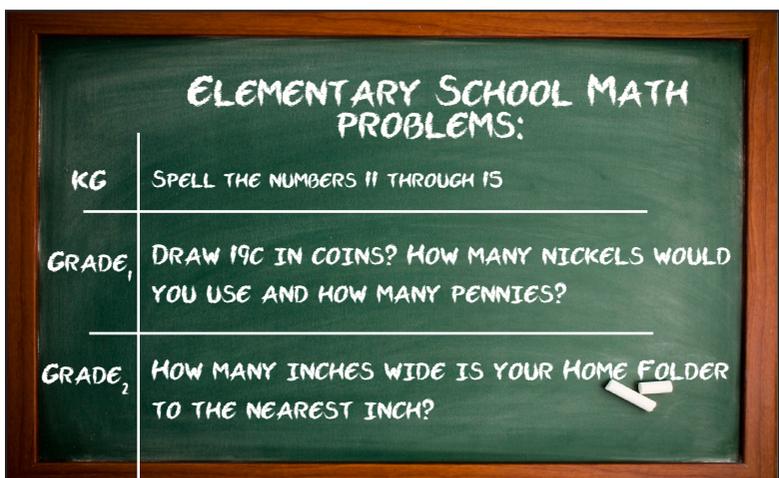
I'm sharing these four valuable tips that posted on usnews.com online:

1. Show and tell: If your child is using a device, program, or website you aren't familiar with, have them show you how it works.
2. Google it: It's a simple but often overlooked step to technical understanding and Internet safety.
3. Keep tech public: If your children's computers are in their bedrooms, you should move them out of the room and be sure they are working in an open area where you can see their screen.
4. Get excited: Computers, tablets, and smartphones bring students out of their shells and open up exciting new avenues for learning, especially if your child is a shy kid. Gives them a chance to explore but show them your excitement by letting them share what they learned.

Last tip from me to our valuable parents: remember the saying: "Computers are incredibly fast, accurate, and stupid. Human beings are incredibly slow, inaccurate, and brilliant. Together they are powerful beyond imagination." Albert Einstein

You don't need to know all the ins and outs of the computer, but you need to ensure that your child is learning the 21st century skills that are needed for their future. Here is the link of the article for your reference: <http://www.usnews.com/education/high-schools/articles/2011/10/25/4-tech-tips-for-parents-to-embrace-digital-education>

Ms. Egbal Mohamed



WINNERS!

- KG: Ece
- G1: Ahmed
- G2: Alan

KAS SOCCER

We few, we happy few, we band of brothers... No, I did not read English at Varsity, but this ex-rugby player, who played against the All Blacks, enjoys a good book and a good phrase now and then.

On Sunday, January 18, I was walking on the sports field observing Mr. David Lauchmen and Mr. Nickolas Urkow coaching the Gr.7-9 Boys team. They were dribbling-tag improving their communication skills and footwork. I saw Mrs Jocelyn and Ms. Sarah Boyer and their Gr.7-9 Girls' team. They were busy with a full scrimmage, shouting encouragement and where players should be and were not supposed to be. Lastly, I saw Mr. Khalid and his senior boys working on defense and honing their skills ready for the new season.

Today the younger players, gr.3-5 Boys team, were running on the field not patient enough with their coach, which happens to be the writer of this article not wanting to wait to kick the ball into the goal.

We few, we happy few, we band of brothers... I am privileged to report that KAS SPORTS is truly healthy and buzzing with energy. The new season starts on Monday, January 26, 2015. Win or lose we are in good condition.

My best wishes to all coaches and their players for this 2015 season.

Date	Teams	Venue	Time
Monday, January 26	GIRLS: Gr. 7-9	KICS	3pm- 6pm
Wednesday, January 28	GIRLS: Gr. 10-12	KICS	3pm- 6pm
Monday, February 2	BOYS: Gr. 4/5, Gr. 6/7	KAS	3pm- 6pm
Wednesday, February 4	BOYS: Gr. 8/9, Gr. 10-12	KAS	3pm- 6pm
Monday, February 9	GIRLS: Gr. 10-12	KAS	3pm- 6pm
Wednesday, February 11	GIRLS: Gr. 7-9	KAS	3pm- 6pm
Monday, February 16	BOYS: Gr. 8/9, Gr. 10-12	KICS	3pm- 6pm
Wednesday, February 18	BOYS: Gr. 4/5, Gr. 6/7	KICS	3pm- 6pm
Saturday, February 21	ALL BOYS TEAMS!!!	KICS	2pm- 6pm
Monday, February 23	GIRLS: Gr. 7-9	KAS	3pm- 6pm
Wednesday, February 25	GIRLS: Gr.10-12	KAS	3pm- 6pm



Middle & High Rebus



Faculty Rebus



Last week's WINNERS are!
Faculty: Magdi - Database Admin

William Shakesapere Globe to Globe

On the 19th January, Khartoum experienced a very rare treat as the Shakespeare Globe Theatre performed Hamlet, Prince of Denmark as part of its Globe -to- Globe project. The project began in 2014 to celebrate the 450th anniversary of the birth of William Shakespeare. It aims to perform Hamlet in every country of the world, and will finish in April of 2016 at Elsinore Castle, Denmark.

The Daily Telegraph praised this rendition of the play as "a young, un-jaded, openhearted portrayal of the Danish Prince". The Independent described it as a "wonderfully engrossing production". It was a lively, enthusiastic, and energetic performance.

Sudan was the 69th country to host the play and the ensemble of actors will travel to Ethiopia next as it embarks on its African stage of the tour. Without doubt, "All the World is a Stage" to the works of Shakespeare.

Alamein Michael Metcalf