

# news

news from the trunk

Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup> 2015



## WARM HEARTS, WARM BODIES Blanket, Clothing, Donations Drive

*Enjoy the little things in life*

### SUPERINTENDENT'S PARENT INFORMATION SEMINARS

Please bring your friends and colleagues from KAS and from outside KAS:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 8:30 - 9:30 AM, KAS LIBRARY

"Mathematics and the Early Elementary School Years"

Presenters Andruette van der Merwe and Phil Centers



Dear Parents,

This week our students have been participating in two Model United Nations Conferences. One is taking place in Singapore, and the other in Khartoum at the KICS School. The Conferences are exciting learning events for students. The Model United Nations Organization has been operating for many years. As the name implies, it is modeled after the real United Nations Organization. The MUN consists of student representatives from hundreds of MUN clubs, and representatives from Model United Nations classes taught as a part a school's regular course offerings. The Model United Nations student representatives from KAS attend our regular social studies classes. Their advisors and chaperones at MUN conferences are our teachers.

Like the work and operations of the real UN, MUN students debate and present speeches on global issues that cover a wide range of topics critical to the 'well-being of the world' such as: environmental issues, world conflicts, peace initiatives, international legal issues (e.g., legal treaties related to border disputes and maritime use), education and cultural development, economics, refugee concerns, etc. At the conferences, students present ideas and proposals they have been researching for many months.

In addition to learning about how the UN works, and in addition to learning debate, writing and research skills, the MUN conferences support the development of the skills of collaboration and group cooperation. Conference students meet other MUN students from many different countries. It is common for the social contacts and friendships made at MUN conferences to continue for many years.

You can see that the Model United Nations provides a unique and comprehensive learning experience. We are proud of the KAS students and their advisors who are taking part in this year's Model United Nations Conferences. We congratulate them.

If you would like to watch the MUN debates that are taking place in Khartoum, they are currently taking place at the KICS school. Topics debated and discussed relate to the "Abuse of Power". Come and watch our KAS students at the MUN! Visiting hours are as follows:

Thursday November 19, 2:30 PM until 5 PM  
Friday, November 20, 2:30 PM until 5 PM  
Saturday, November 21, 2:30 PM until 4:00 PM

Sincerely,

**Dr. Rob Beck**  
Superintendent

## Top 10 Tips to Stay Healthy

As winter draws near, the cold and flu may appear. Spread the wealth, and take care of your health! Here are ten tips for staying healthy this winter.

1. Wash your hands often
2. Cover your nose/mouth when you sneeze/cough
3. Drink more water
4. Exercise 30 minutes a day
5. Eat fruits and vegetables
6. Sleep for 8-9 hours every night
7. Lather on lotion to sooth dry skin
8. Put on lip balm to heal chapped lips
9. Read or rest in a quiet room to relieve stress
10. Have fun! (can also relieve stress)

If you are feeling blue, here's what to do: stay home and rest. We want you at school when you are at your best!

Ms. Lyon



Dear Parents and Community Members,

In my last article I wrote about technology, particularly computers, their peripheral devices, and the networks that connect them. Just as the 20th Century was characterized by its revolutionary new technologies (cars, planes, radio, movies, television, etc.), so the 21st Century is being characterized by its new technologies, foremost of which is the world of the microchip and everything connected with it.

As we teach 21st Century technology to our students here at Khartoum American School, there are six internationally-recognized areas, or “standards” that we want our students to become proficient in over the course of their school careers:

1. Creativity and Innovation: Students demonstrate creative thinking, construct knowledge, and develop innovative products and processes using technology.
2. Communication and Collaboration: Students use digital media and environments to communicate and work collaboratively, including at a distance, to support individual learning and contribute to the learning of others.
3. Research and Information Fluency: Students apply digital tools to gather, evaluate, and use information.
4. Critical Thinking, Problem Solving, and Decision Making: Students use critical thinking skills to plan and conduct research, manage projects, solve problems, and make informed decisions using appropriate digital tools and resources.
5. Digital Citizenship: Students understand human, cultural, and societal issues related to technology and practice legal and ethical behavior.
6. Technology Operations and Concepts: Students demonstrate a sound understanding of technology concepts, systems, and operations.

These standards are from the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). In accordance with these ISTE standards, we achieve technology proficiency with our students here at KAS through creating fun learning activities that apply technology to projects that the students enjoy doing. The Elementary School team, including our IT teacher, Ms. Egbal Mohamed, and our Curriculum Coordinator, Ms. Dina Shalash, are in the middle of reviewing our information and communications technology (ICT) curriculum for grades K through 5. Through our enhanced ICT curriculum I see our students becoming more technologically skilled each new quarter. It is exciting to be part of a 21st Century technology school!

**Phil**  
Elementary/Early Childhood Principal

KAS vs. KICS | Let's go orange

Got Game? | Wear Orange or Green

This is

Swish Factor! | Wear Orange or Green

Get Fit Never Quit

Mon & Wed 23 and 25 November

2:45 pm

**Hanro van der Merwe**  
Athletic Director



### Saying of the week

When somebody makes a **Moot Point** she is suggesting something so vague and ambiguous that it is open to debate. 'Moot' derives from a wonderful old AngloSaxon word 'gemot', which means 'meeting'. Saxon society was made up of many different assemblies where public issues could be debated. A 'wardmote' was a ward meeting, a 'burgmote' was a town meeting and the grand 'witenagemote' was a meeting of prominent wise men. During the 16th century the moot courts, or the mootings, were established at the Inns of Court in London. This was the place where young law students were able to practice their powers of argument and debate by taking part in hypothetical trials. It is a practice that continues to this day and forms the origin of this phrase. ☞

Minette van der Bijl  
English Department

## MATH CORNER

### THIS WEEK'S WINNERS!



Julie Christiaens - Kindergarten  
Dania Abd El Gafor - Grade 1  
Hanien Zarroug - Grade 2

### Math Minute Questions and Answers

Q

#### Kindergarten

Order these numbers counting backwards from 10 to 1: 1, 8, 3, 10, 2, 9, 5, 7.

Q

#### Grade 1

Math minute challenge sheet sent home with first grade students.

Q

#### Grade 2

Draw an analog clock showing 6:15. Then, write the digital time of what time it will be 5 minutes later.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### WARM hearts bodies



#### For those in need

We will be collecting clothes and blankets from Sunday November 8th till Sunday November 29th please make sure the items are washed, folded and placed in bags with labels of size and gender.

It is starting to cool down and there are so many people in Khartoum who will be in need of warm clothing and blankets as we enter the winter months. There is a currently a blanket and clothing drive in action at KAS called Warm Bodies, Warm Hearts to support local orphanages and the homeless. KAS workers with children will also be offered some items

All items must be donated by Sunday, November 29th. Please make sure the items are washed and folded and placed in bags with labels of size and gender. ALL items can be delivered to Ms. Shireen in the Library! The class who donates the most items will win a pizza party!

Khartoum American School  
Thursday November 26, 2015

The PTA kindly request that you send donations of cakes, cupcakes, brownies, or any other baked treats to sell on Thursday, November 26, 2015.

## PTA Bake Sale



Please send donations to your son/daughter's class teacher on Thursday, November 26, 2015.

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location:  
Elementary Playground

## HOMEWORK HELP!!!

Homework is meant to provide practice for students about what they learned in school that day. It is very similar to practicing for any sport. In order to get better, the person must focus and put forth a strong effort. The other factor that is important is the environment for the practice. For example, soccer practice will not be very productive if done in a classroom or on a street.

The same is true for school homework. A good setting must be established. Removing distractions like phones, music, and social media sites from the place where students do their homework will help them focus. Having a regular established time to do homework provides a routine and structure that all students can benefit from. Another consideration is how long a student should do homework for. Some students are able to stay on task for long periods while others cannot. Homework sessions can be broken into smaller periods with short rests of 5-10 minutes. Establishing a goal for an assignment completion before taking a break is also helpful in completing homework.

Many students do not have the discipline established to take care of their homework responsibilities, so parent monitoring is critical and shows students that they are supported and that education is important. Teachers and parents working together will result in smarter, more successful and happier children.

David Lauchmen  
Student Support Services