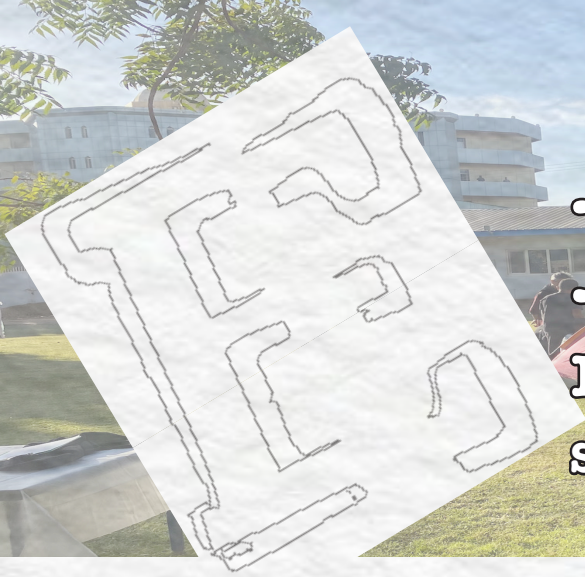




# news

News from the trunk!

Sunday February 9th, 2022



## GRADE 4 ZERO WASTE OVER-NIGHT CAMP!





# Letter from the Principal Bruce Doig

## Helping My Child Succeed

Every parent has moments when they wonder, "How is my child doing at school?" This often happens around report card time as that is when grades are issues and parent's awareness increases. However, just as we ask our KAS students to be proactive in learning, we ask our KAS parents to be proactive in helping their sons or daughters to be focused on their studies through the semester.

Here are a few things you, as a parent, can do.

1. Talk to your child about how school is going and what they are doing at school. If he or she isn't telling you, refer to #2.
2. Stay in regular contact with your child's teachers. This can easily be done through our Schoology sign-in page at <https://kas.schoology.com/login?&school=2594057705>
3. There is Message icon at the top right, which looks like an envelope. Click the envelope to open up the Messages screen.
4. Click New Message and type in the teacher's name in the To: box. HINT - you can send this message to ALL of your child's MS or HS teachers at once. So if Joey has five teachers, simply type in the first or last name and the teacher's name will show up on a list.
5. Write the message. A simple: "How is my child, Joey, doing in your class? Please let me know if there is any missing work. Thank you!"

Besides staying in regular contact with your child's teachers and talking with them, you can support them in other ways.

6. Help them make a schedule to organize their time. Build in some time for hobbies or outside activities. Break up the time into 25-minute sections, with 5-minute breaks.
7. Have your child break up BIG assignments into smaller parts so she or he can work on a little bit each day instead of trying to do it all at once.
8. Do the work that is more challenging first, before the work that is easier. The later your child does the more challenging work, the harder it is because they are more tired.
- 9 Check in with your child about the schedule - did they complete everything? Did they build In the time to do the work due the next day? Did that work get done?
10. Don't be afraid to help your child revise the schedule when things get done faster, or when it becomes clear more time is needed in different subjects.

As a community, teachers, students, and parents should be working together to allow each student to grow in self-management skills. These include organizational skills, affective skills (the ability to stick with a task and complete it, including learning how to try again and change approaches to experience great success), and reflective skills (the ability to look at what was done and learn from it). These are things that teachers incorporate in classroom routines. Using the 10 strategies and steps above help reinforce and grow these skills at home.

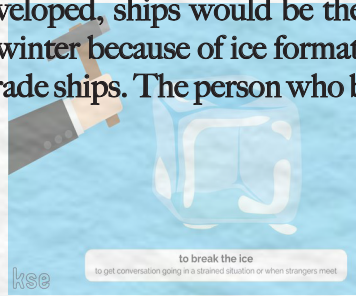
If you don't know your Schoology log in, please contact us here at KAS and we can send you your log in. If you would like some training on using Schoology, on February 19th our Technology Department will be available during the day to meet with you and show you how the system works.



# Saying

To **Break the Ice** means do or say something to relieve tension or get conversation going at the start of a party or when people meet for the first time.

Back when road transportation was not developed, ships would be the only transportation and means of trade. At times, the ships would get stuck during the winter because of ice formation. The receiving country would send small ships to “break the ice” to clear a way for the trade ships. The person who breaks the ice forges a path for others to follow.



## For the Love of Books

Like many things in life, I like to think that reading is somewhat of an acquired taste. I doubt anyone randomly becomes an avid reader. For those who become readers later in life, it had to be a really good book that got that person into reading, or even a peer or someone they admire, that suggested some book. Working with young children, I am a firm believer that it is never too early to inculcate reading, and since nobody is born knowing how to read, for teachers and parents, the best way to encourage children to read, is by modeling. Children watch their surroundings, basically absorb everything possible, and learn by it. The more they see adults around them reading, the more they will copy such habits.

In Preschool, we have a designated time every day, to enjoy story time. By reading to them, our students learn so many things. Skills like being able to control themselves, sit through a whole book, focusing and following the line of the story. While reading, we usually use questioning and develop cognitive skills like predicting, inferring, deducing, and so on. Their social-emotional skills improve as well, gaining confidence as they are able to discuss the stories with their peers and teachers, learning to respect others by waiting to have a turn to speak without interrupting, feeling reassured when predicting, among others. Storytime encourages our students to enjoy books from an early age, which promotes literacy skills and encourages them to become life-long readers.

Ideally Storytime should also happen at home, which is usually referred to as Bed Time Stories. Sometimes it may be challenging to find books at home appropriate to read to young kids, which is why we encourage parents to approach school and checkout books from the library, which is a wonderful resource, almost a luxury, that not many schools have in our society. One or two books a week that can be read over and over every night would be enough to support reading habits that we encourage at school.

Happy reading!





## Marshall Nature Reserve

Grades 1,2 and 5 had a blast visiting the Marshall Nature Reserve where students had the opportunity to visit a protected habitat and learn all about native and international birds, plants, and fish. Students got up close and personal with 12 different types of birds, getting to feed them and hold them. They were also able to feed the koi fish, a species of fish from Japan all while being immersed in a tropical ecosystem.

Emily Daire  
Grade 2 Teacher





