

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, November 25th 2010



Early Dismissal
Wednesday, December 1st, 2010 at 11 am



A Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents

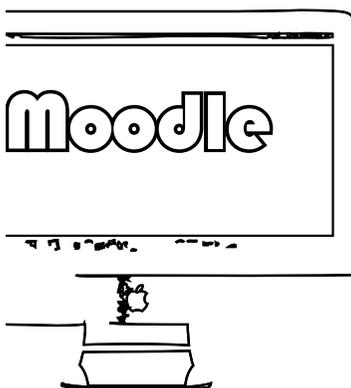
Everyone knows what a poodle or a noodle is but does everyone know what a Moodle is? Even as I write this letter, my computer scribbles a red line under the word "Moodle" as if it either does not exist or it is a spelling mistake. Well, Moodle is something very special that teachers of students from Grades 1 -12 have been working hard on at KAS over the past four months. Moodle stands for Modular Object-Oriented Dynamic Learning Environment. It is an online, interactive way in which students, parents and teachers can all communicate with each other. It is a big leap by our school to embrace the world of online learning by posting class work, assignments, forums, chat rooms and even grades on the world wide web.

Moodle is a place online where students can see work given to them by their teachers. This can be something specific like an assignment or a piece of homework as well as other material relating to a course such as a calendar of events, a course overview, or even a grading rubric. All parents and students need is a secure online password and then they have access to all of the exceptional hard work and planning done by our teachers to ensure our students have engaging and challenging material. Students can complete this work at home or at school and then submit it, ready for marking, electronically.

The beauty of Moodle is its simplicity. All of the material relating to a course or class is online, conveniently located on the one web page. Beyond being forever present, it is quick and easy to use and saves material in printed form from being lost, mislaid or even ill treated by family pets.

In recent times, schools all over the world have been using Moodle as a means of developing better communication with parents. Parents can see the types of work that their children are doing at school as well as catching up on their performances by viewing the grade book. Moodle is the ideal way for parents to take a more active role in their child's education by helping their child manage time and by understanding when assignments are due, or in some exceptional cases, overdue.

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These days the world of international education has seen many challenges such as the "Bird Flu Virus" that closed many schools the world over. These schools were able to survive and flourish by way of opening "virtual schools" using Moodle and were able to have students keep up with their work despite the fact they were either in their homes or scattered to many different parts of the world. While we hope that we will never be in need of using Moodle for such a reason, we are confident that if students are ever stranded overseas or unable to attend school for any reason our Moodle will provide the same form of back up support.

In the coming weeks, class teachers will be sending more information home about Moodle specific to your children. We will also be hosting several "Moodle Drop In Days" where parents can come to the school, log onto Moodle and get a clearer picture of how students will work with this software and get a better appreciation of how Moodle will help your children's education in the years ahead. Next week we will be issuing passwords to parents and from that point forward I am sure that you will enjoy taking a more active role in your child's education.

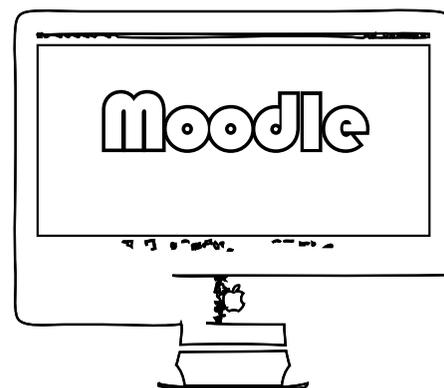
Technology today is something special and we hope this latest innovation from our school turns out to be the outstanding success that we expect it to be.

New After School Activities Program (ASAP) Sign up Sheets Coming

ASAP

Sign up sheets for after school activities will be coming with the newsletter next week. We are signing up before the Winter break so that it will give everyone an early idea of what to expect in January. We will have many more activities this time. Everyone will have a first, second and third choice on each day. Please be sure to sign up and return the sheets by Wednesday, December 8. Activities will begin on Sunday, January 23.

We are always willing to have parents offer to provide an activity. Please contact Mr. Dave if you are interested in helping provide a wide variety of activities for our school. We have a good community with a lot of people who have a wide range of experiences. Let's work together for even better educational opportunities for your children.



How can I tell how well my child is doing in school?

- Ask your child to show you her school work, and note any comments made by the teacher.
- Check report cards carefully for teacher comments, attendance, and conduct. Ask the teacher or the learning center for other kinds of information about your child's performance, such as teacher observations.
- Find out if your child's teacher uses email or moodle to communicate with parents. Using email will allow you to send and receive messages at times that are most convenient for you.
- Ask teachers to show you examples of successful work and compare it to your child's work. Listen to the teacher's comments about your child's work and what she needs to do to improve. Plan with the teacher how you can work together to help your child do better work.
- Attend parent-teacher conferences that are scheduled during the year.

Soccer News

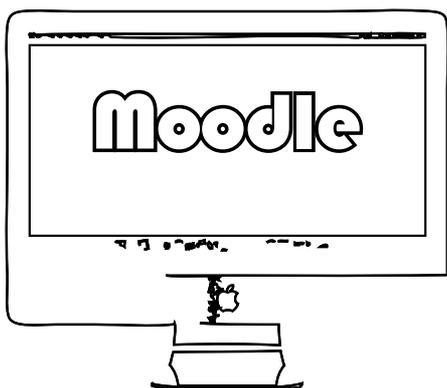
Next week the Soccer season kicks off at KAS. The U11 boys will play their first games at home today against NVA, BES, UHS, and KICS. The U14 boys will take on NVA and the U19 will take on BES on Tuesday, November 30th with both games starting at 3:15pm at KAS. The U14 girls will play against NVA at home on Wednesday, December 1st at 3:15pm. Come cheer for your KAS teams. GO KAS!

Uniforms Needed!

Can the following players please turn in their Basketball uniforms to Mrs. Paar ASAP. Thanks.

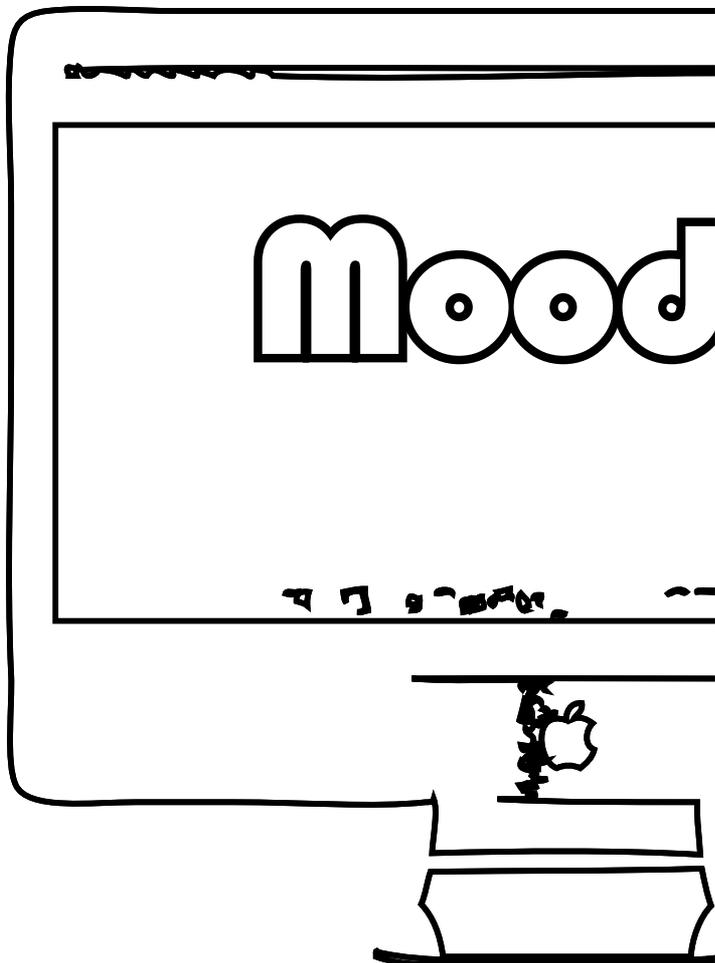
Martha Ayad, Thabi Kgwete, Gerald Msangi, Majid Fageeh, Luanray Paulsen, Hassan El-Nefeidi, Badr El-Nefeidi, Moumin El-Nefeidi, and Ahmed Sidahmed.

Needed!
Uniforms



Moodle Drop in Dates

Saturday, December 4th, 2010 from 12 - 2pm
and Monday December 6th, 2010 from 2 - 4pm



KAS Security SMS Testing

We will be sending test SMS security texts this Friday and Saturday.

If you do not receive any SMS message, please send an email to kas@krtams.org with the following information:

Full Name:

Child's Name and Grade:

Mobile Phone number:

Dates to Remember

Friday, November 26th, 2010	PTA Dance
Wednesday, December 1st, 2010	Early Dismissal (11:00am)
December 12th - 14th, 2010	Final Exams
Friday, December 17th, 2010 through Saturday January 15th, 2010	Winter Break



KAS Parent Teacher Association

PTA Dance

Friday, November 26th 2010

7:30 p m - 10:30 p m

Admission 50 \$dg

admission includes hors d'oeuvres

For tickets please email kas@krtams.org