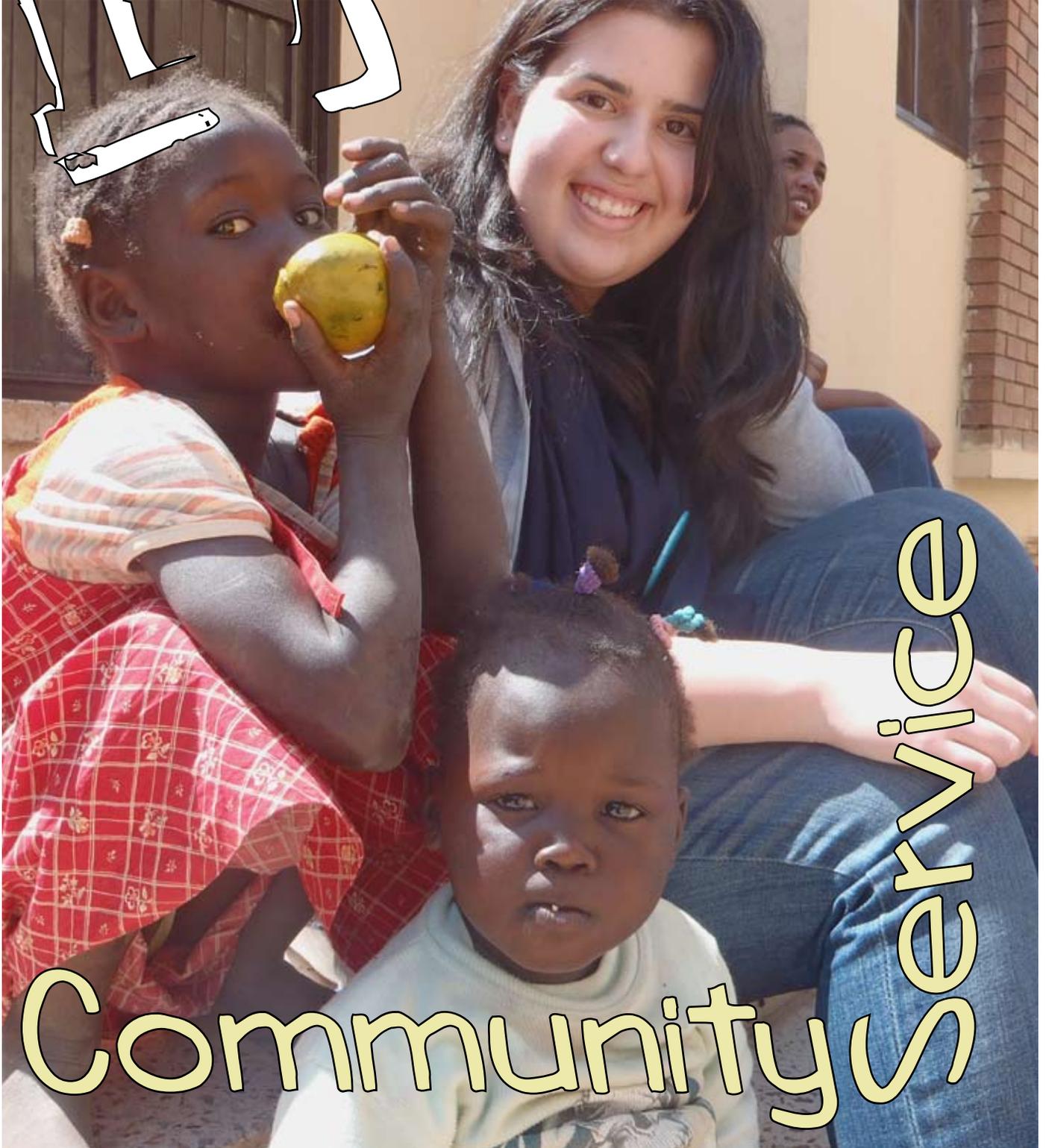


TRUNK NEWS

news from the trunk
Thursday, February 17th 2011



Community Service

U14 and U18 Boys Soccer Championship at KAS
Tuesday, February 22nd, 2011 at 3pm



A letter from the superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,

It is so good to be back home with family and friends. After a cold three weeks in the USA and Canada recruiting some fantastic teachers to join our staff for next year, it is an absolute pleasure to see some warmer weather and the smiling faces of our student body.

This time of the year is an exciting one for schools in that the incoming new teachers will help us both shape the direction of our school, and also bolster areas of the school that we have targeted for growth. I am happy to report that the teachers who I have hired, thus far, come with excellent experience both in the United States and in international schools, and more importantly they all share our student-centered philosophy which is at the heart of our school program.

My thanks goes out to the school principals Mrs. Boutros and Mr. Voborsky for managing the school in absence and equal thanks to Mrs. Garcia, the unsung hero of our school who not only managed the business end of the school, but also put together a fantastic KAS Bazaar.

Thank you also to everyone for the warm welcome back. While the US is a great place to visit, there is absolutely no place like home.

Letter From the Principal, Susan Boutros

Dear Parents and Friends,

It always surprises me how our children are more comfortable with technology than we are, or might ever be.

In the past weeks we have witnessed the first Twitter/Facebook revolution. In just three short weeks, Egypt's people rose up, protested, and with minimal bloodshed and violence, toppled a strong leader and regime. Social networks like Facebook and Twitter have been known to help spread the revolutionary message.

Without doubt social networks have many benefits. It also seems that social networking will become the norm for communication in the near future. Our children are very familiar with using Facebook and other social networks but are they using them wisely is indeed the big question.

Continued in next column.....

We all know that spending too much time on social networking can have a negative impact on their studies. For struggling students Facebook can be a huge distraction leading to poor grades at school. As parents and teachers we also have to be careful that our children do not share personal information with others, use inappropriate language or get involved in inappropriate activities. Our children have to be supervised, of course, and instructed on what is or isn't acceptable.

Let's all work together and make sure that we provide guidance and supervision to our children using social networks.

High School Community Service

We are pleased to announce a brand-new high school elective course: Community Service Learning! This course engages students in active learning as well as increases awareness of current social issues. Not a classroom-based course, we will be participating in many field trips, listening to guest speakers, and implementing our own service projects for the good of the greater Khartoum community. If you would like to contribute to this project, please contact Tiffany Kelley at tkelley@krtams.org.

MUN Khartoum

Twelve KAS students spent this past weekend participating in a Model United Nations conference hosted by KICS. Delegates at the conference researched and debated three major issues: disarmament in Israel and the DPR Korea, women's rights in Afghanistan, and corporate social responsibility. At the opening ceremony, Almaha al-Hammadi, representing the IAEA, and Sammy Hassan, representing South Korea, delivered strong position statements on the issue of nuclear disarmament, while Hayam Elsanousi, the delegate of the United States, focused attention on the issue of corporate social responsibility. During debate sessions, Hasan Babiker and Hayam Elsanousi both submitted strong resolutions that were passed by the Human Rights Council, and all the delegates were actively involved in trying to come up with potential solutions for the issues. In addition to the already mentioned students, KAS was represented by Saba Khan, Nthabiseng Kgwete, Andrew Kim, Sarah Saif Omer, Leticia Pereira, Bethel Tafere, and Mengfei Wang. Great work KAS!

Get Organized!

As you can see by reading this week's newsletter, KAS has successful Community Service and Model United Nations programs. In addition to these programs, we provide our students with numerous after school activities. It is important



for our students to have extracurricular opportunities, as it leads to their growth as community members, team players, artists, athletes and public speakers. However, it is also critical for students to focus on their studies. In order for students to establish a healthy balance between the two, they must be ORGANIZED!

Organization is the key to succeeding at school. As students leave their 5th grade classrooms, they enter the world of middle school, full of grades, homework and studying! Our middle school students are provided planning books to keep track of their homework assignments. Middle school students must also take responsibility for their class schedules, and make sure they reach each class period on time. Teachers facilitate these routines and support 6th, 7th and 8th graders, so that once they reach high school they can take on a heavier course load, and more responsibilities.

High school is a critical time for students, and it is important that students are organized both at school, and at home. High school students should set a schedule for homework completion, and should also get a lot of rest. Our 10th graders have already begun thinking of careers and colleges, and they take a class entirely dedicated to planning this part of their futures.

There is a lot that you can do as a parent to help your children become organized!

- Help them maintain a schedule for completing homework.
- Encourage them to complete more difficult homework first, while they still have energy.
- Remind them to write down all of their assignments.
- Make sure they have all of their school supplies each day.

Thank you for all of your help at home! KAS is a community school and your efforts are critical to helping our students succeed. The Learning Center also offers after school check in and academic support for all students from 2:05-3:00pm.

A Letter from the Elementary Principal, Ben Voborsky

At KAS we pride ourselves on the fact that we are a community school and building a sense of community is important to us. Grade 1 and Grade 4 have been working together as learning buddies. Learning buddies work



Dates to Remember

Tuesday, February 22nd, 2011 at 7pm	11th Grade College Night
Tuesday, February 22nd, 2011 at 3pm	U14 and U18 Boys Soccer Championship at KAS
Wednesday, February 23rd, 2011 at 11am	Early Dismissal
Wednesday, February 23rd, 2011 at 3pm	U14 and U18 Girls Soccer Championship at KAS



together once a week on a variety of academic activities. This week, at our Thursday elementary assembly, these students had the opportunity to share some of their learning with our elementary community. They performed a wonderful song that they have been working on and were cheered on by all.

Another community activity that is rapidly approaching is Sudan Days. Sudan Days will be held March 1-3 this year and the entire KAS community will be brought together to learn more about our host country. The Sudan Days Committee is looking for students who want to participate in dances, plays, and games. If you are interested please sign up in the Library or the Computer room. If you have any questions see Ms. Nada, Mrs. Lanario, or Ms. McCullough.

Please remember that the KAS school day starts at 7:15 with an Elementary assembly and Middle and High School advisory.

Soccer News

This week was the Semi-Finals for all U19/U14 soccer teams. Due to the holiday, the boys traveled and played on Wednesday at KICS. The U19 boys played against BES and won 5-2 with goals scored by Hussein El-Nefeidi, Basel Al-Harbi (2), and Moumin El-Nefeidi (2). This allows the team to advance to the Finals next week against KICS who beat UHS yesterday. GO TEAM!

The U14 boys played against UHS at KICS and won 3-1 with goals scored by Yousef Al-Harbi and Gontse Kgwete. This allows the team to advance to the Finals next week against KICS who beat BES yesterday. Go Team!

The U19 girls played at KAS against KICS and BES in a round robin tournament. The girls had to play with only 6 players against KICS due to 2 team members not being at school. The team played well, but at the end of extra time the girls lost to KICS 1-0. The girls regrouped for the second game against BES and won 4-0 with goals scored by Martha Ayad, Iman El-Mahdi, Sarah Saif, and Nthabiseng Kgwete. Well done team. The girls will play next week against KICS in the finals on Monday at KICS! GO KAS!

The U14 girls played their last game of the regular season. The team played fantastic the first half, but were not so strong in the second half and lost the game 3-0 to UHS, placing the team in 4th place for the season. The girls will play one more day for the Khartoum Cup next week on Thursday. Good Luck girls!

Emotional Intelligence Presentation Make Up Date

The Emotional Intelligence presentation for February 15 was delayed due to the public holiday. The presentation will be given again on Monday, February 21 at 7:30 PM.

A new presentation on “Memory” will be given on March 7 and 8.