

# NEWS

news from the trunk  
Thursday, March 31st, 2011



# Open Day

**U14 and U18 Boys Volleyball Championship**  
**Tuesday, April 5th, 2011 at 3pm**



## A Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,

One important aspect of managing an international school is that of marketing the school to prospective parents. It is important that school enrollment is regularly maintained at an appropriate level or even increased, and so attracting new families to the school is one of our goals annually.

Obviously when you have such an outstanding school such as ours this job of marketing is so much easier. Parents are naturally attracted to our beautiful campus, our warm friendly attitude to schooling and the knowledge that their children will be in the hands of exceptional teachers following a recognized school program. Regularly we have parents who come to the school based on recommendations from colleagues or friends whose children have studied or are studying at KAS. The positive experiences that they have encountered continually encourage them to spread the word to others. Quite often we hear also of parents who have chosen to send their children elsewhere and are now regretful for making this decision.

In planning for our marketing of the school for next year's enrollment, I proposed to the School Board that we drive around Khartoum visiting those workplaces where we traditionally have a customer base and generally promote the school. While this plan was proactive in design the major drawback was that the people we would be visiting could not actually see the school first hand or interact with our students and teachers. From this idea we have moved ahead and are now ready to host the school's first ever "Open Day" on Wednesday, the 6th of April. This day will be an extremely busy one for the school as in the evening we will also be hosting our annual school Science Fair.

The concept of the Open Day will be very simple in that selected groups from Embassies, Businesses and Non-Governmental Organizations will be given a tour of the school and an opportunity to speak with the administration, the teachers and the students as a means of learning more about Khartoum American School from all perspectives.

The Open Day promises to be a great experience for all of us and ideally we will move the school away from the flattering but unenviable tag of being one of Khartoum's "best kept secrets". On a daily basis I marvel at the dynamism and growth that takes place on a number of levels at KAS, and hopefully the Open Day will attract those families searching for a quality education for their children and a community to belong to.

Dear Ms. Kelley,

**The team would like to thank you for being a great coach. You have trained us to be the best players on the field and taught us how to work as a team and complement each other. You also told us not to be afraid to fall on the ground and most importantly to never give up! We are a team on and off the court and we all deeply appreciate your support.**

*Elia Ayad*

## Child and Adult Behavior: New Understandings

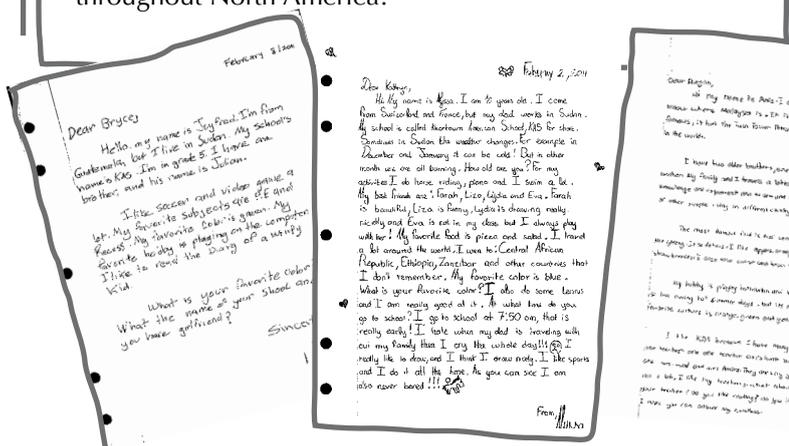
There will be repeated presentations on Monday and Tuesday, April 18th and 19th, by Dave Zakem in his Preschool room. There will be information covering many areas including:

- Do good parents have good children?
- Do parents or schools have more influence?
- Simple ways to have successful children.
- What do children learn from parents?
- Why teens often seem so negative.
- Why are some children and parents always at odds?
- New ways to get desired behavior.
- Different behaviors at home and school; Why?

Everyone is welcome, including family and friends. Childcare not available.

## Pen Pals

Grade 5 has become "pen pals" with a grade five class in the United States. They're writing letters, back-and-forth with these American pen pals. The students are getting to know a diverse group of peers half-way around the world, in Colorado. They are gaining practical writing experience, putting their best efforts toward communicating with people who live quite different lives, yet remain remarkably similar fifth graders. They described themselves, highlighting their positive attributes, likes, and dislikes, therefore expanding their confidence through their letters. The children in grade five are not only learning about the people they're writing to as well as themselves, but also the very different cultures, climate, and overall location of their pen pals. In turn, our class has been sharing about the cultures, climate, and overall location of Khartoum. As we move forward with our letter-writing, grade five will debrief about the happenings at KAS and what they're learning in class. We are currently reading through the letters we received from our friends in Colorado (after our first response was sent and received) and formulating our responses to the newly received letters. This process includes a great deal of practice with editing and revising what is usually multiple drafts, until every student is proud of what he or she is sending out. We're also extending our pen pal program, linking up with another grade five class; this one is in Canada! Pretty soon we'll have contacts throughout North America!



# You are cordially invited to attend the 2011 KAS Science Fair!

Wednesday April 6th from 6:00-8:00 pm

This is a great opportunity for the whole family to meet the young scientists of tomorrow and observe projects on the cutting edge of science. You can also take an active role in this year's Science Fair by becoming a judge. Judge's roles are very informal, but offer the students an opportunity to discuss and debate their scientific observations and conclusions.

## A Science Fair is many things

- It is making a commitment to see your project through from start to finish.
- It is answering a question you are curious about.
- It is formulating a purpose for your project and making a hypothesis about the outcome of your experimentation.
- It is experimenting to test your hypothesis, making observations, recording your data... and then repeating the experiment to verify your results.
- It is analyzing your findings and drawing conclusions.
- It is presenting your findings to an audience.
- It's fun.

## Chemistry (9th Grade)

The chemical reactions chapter of the physical science students is introduced to two basic conservation laws of chemical reactions: the law of conservation of mass and the law of conservation of energy. A classification scheme for reactions is discussed. Finally students learn about reaction kinetics (rates) and chemical equilibrium, along with the factors affecting them.



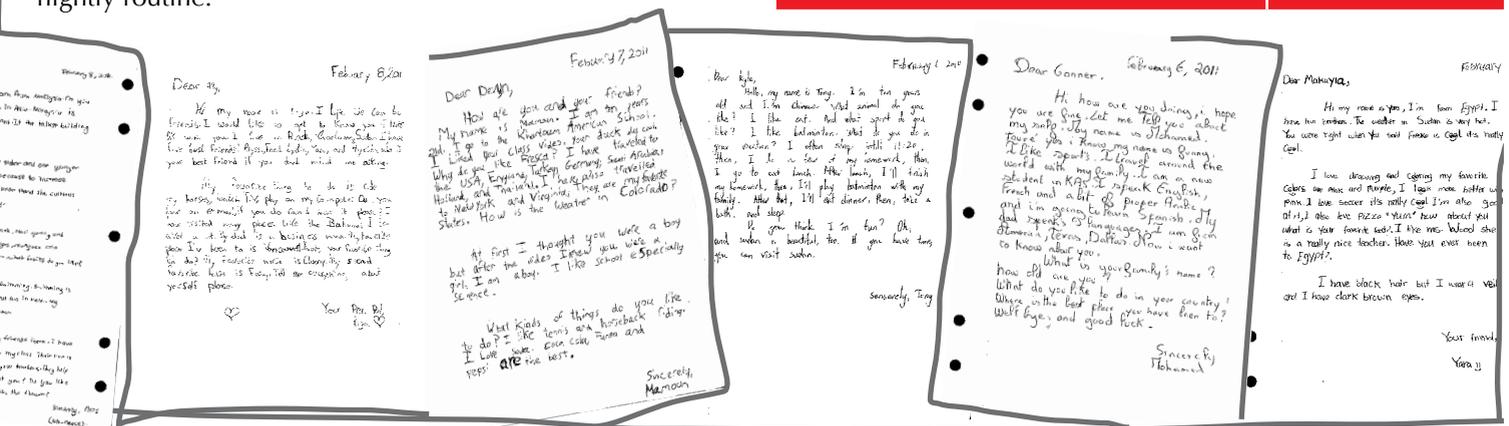
## Reading Aloud Hints

From the Library—For Younger Children

1. Read to your child and have her turn the pages as you read.
2. Have your child point to words as you read them.
3. Read aloud at the supermarket or other store. As you walk down the aisles, read the name of a food or product. Challenge your child to find that food on the shelves. Let your child read the packages and cans as you put them away at home.
4. Read to your child at bedtime. Make it a part of the nightly routine.

## Dates to Remember

Tuesday, April 5th, 2011 at 3pm	U14 and U19 Boys Volleyball Championship
Wednesday, April 6th, 2011 from 10am to 12pm	KAS Open Day
Wednesday, April 6th, 2011 at 3pm	U14 and U19 Girls Volleyball Championship
Wednesday, April 6th, 2011 from 6-8pm	Science Fair
Wednesday, April 13th, 2011	Early Dismissal (11am)



## A letter from the Elementary Principal, Ben Voborsky

This week we have begun a new morning assembly format: student led assemblies. The old format of putting the Superintendent or Principal in front of all the students is a thing of the past. Although teachers have been putting great effort into facilitating these assemblies, it is ultimately students who are responsible for the content and leading the way. This is a great source of pride for our students as every classroom, Grades 1-5, and every student will get to contribute over the course of the fourth quarter. Students will lead the assembly, announce the weather and lunch menu, and share a quote of the day and a character trait for the week. These assemblies build our students' self-confidence and public speaking skills while bringing our Early Childhood and Elementary communities together to promote a positive school culture. Not only that, students are WAY more fun to watch. Please attend our morning assemblies starting at 7:15. See you there, Mr. Ben [bvoborsky@krtams.org](mailto:bvoborsky@krtams.org)

## A Message from the Learning Center

It's that time of year again! Report cards will be distributed this week, and students will have a final chance to see how they are doing in their classes before the end of the year. There are two months left of school giving two months for students to concentrate on final projects, papers, and maintaining good grades.

Many students anxiously await report cards; they are either excited to see their improvement, or nervous about the results. Some students go through each report quickly, only focusing on the letter grade. "Did I get an A?" and "Oh, I hope I didn't get a C" are some comments students make. While the letter grade is important, especially in terms of students' GPAs (grade point averages), it is more important for students to focus on the teacher's comments. These comments explain things like why a student did well in class, how a student earned a poor grade, and what a student can do to improve in the future. It is not only important for poorly performing students to read comments, but high achievers must also understand what they did to earn a good mark, in order to receive it again! Without this knowledge, it is difficult for students to improve and maintain their grades from one quarter to the next.

Please ask to see your student's report cards, and make sure you read through each comment with them! Praise them for good marks, and focus on their teacher's advice to help them improve before the end of the year. We want to see all of our middle and high school students maintain their high marks, and improve upon the low ones. It is not too late!

## Volleyball News

Volleyball season is in full swing. Last week all the teams traveled to UHS to play. All the teams have been practicing really hard and it showed in the games. Here are the results:

U19 boys played the first game vs UHS and came out very confident and strong the first set to win 25-16, but maybe were a little too confident as they lost the second set 18-25 against UHS. According to one team member, "we lost the second set so that we could play more volleyball". So again the team came out and played very well to win the third set 25-16 to win the match 2 sets to 1 against UHS.

The U14 boys played their first match against UHS and played very well with great communication and team work to win the first 2 sets to win the match. In the second match, the team played KICS. Again, the team played well and beat KICS in the first 2 sets to win the match. The U14 boys won all 4 sets they played. Well Done!

The U19 girls played on Wednesday at UHS. Their first match was against UHS. The girls played well, but not their best in the first set and lost 23-25. The girls rallied and dominated to win the next 2 sets: 25-14 and 15-5, to win the match 2 -1. When the girls came out to play against KICS, they did not let up and beat them in 2 straight sets: 25-8 and 25-15, to win the match. Well Done ladies!

The U14 girls also played at UHS on Wednesday. The girls played very well and made some great plays and serves against UHS. Unfortunately, they lost the first 2 sets to UHS, but each time got better: 11-25 and 22-25. In the second set, Deena Elomarabi brought the team back from a score of 11-24 to the final score 22-24 all with her super serve that UHS could not return. Coach Paar is SO proud of the improvements her team made and looks forward to a win this week. Go KAS!

The team played at KAS this week on Tuesday and Wednesday. Look for results next week. GO KAS!

## The Gift of Giving

Doing some spring-cleaning? Moving to a new post? Now is a great time to rid yourself of gently used clothing items and shoes – all ages and all sizes welcomed!

We are also asking each student to bring one or more of the following items:

- powdered milk
- cans of tomato paste
- sugar
- oil
- flour
- dry pasta

...so, during your upcoming shopping trips it would be wonderful if you picked up one, two or more of these items to add to our Gift of Giving baskets. Do give generously - the class that brings in the most items will win a most desirable class prize!

The Gift of Giving drive will run the full month of April but please do not wait—start giving early. At the end of April, we will assemble baskets of food and clothing and give them to our guards, cleaners, maintenance workers and gardeners to thank them for their loyalty and for the hard work they do (daily) to keep our community clean, safe and very beautiful!

February 8 / 2011

Dear Bryce,

Hello, my name is Joyfred. I'm from Guatemala, but I live in Sudan. My school's name is KAS. I'm in grade 5. I have one brother, and his name is Julian.

I like soccer and video game a lot. My favorite subjects are P.E and Recess. My favorite color is green. My favorite hobby is playing on the computer. I like to read the Diary of a Wimpy Kid.

What is your favorite color?  
What the name of your school and  
you have girlfriend?

Sincerely

Joyfred R.

February 8, 2011

Dear Jackson,

Don't worry I speak English. I like to annoy my sister too. I prefer "Call of Duty" than "Halo". But I like "Halo" too. The reason why they call me M.J. is because I love Micheal Jackson. So M.J. stands for Micheal Jackson. My favorite football team is Washington Redskins. I also love Soccer.

I hope you got Halo Reach. I also have 2 cats. I was also born in Washington D.C. I also have 2 brothers and 1 sister. And I also had 2 birds Angle and Spoty. When I grow up I want to play in a soccer team called Real Madrid. My favorite player their is Cristiano Ronaldo. What's your favorite soccer team? Who's your favorite singer? What's your favorite football team? Who's your favorite football player? Do you have any pets and what's their name? Peace out

Sincerely,  
M.J.

February 8, 2011.

Dear Regan,

Hi my name is Anis, I am from Malaysia. Do you know where Malaysia is, It is in Asia. Malaysia is famous, it has the Twin Tower Petronas. It the tallest building in the world.

I have two older brothers, one sister and one younger brother. My family and I travels a lot because to increase knowledge and experient also to see and understand the cultures of other people living in different country.

The most famous food is Nasi Lemak, Nasi goreng and Mee goreng. It so delicious. I like apples, oranges, mangoes and strawberries. I also love carrot and broccoli, what fruits do you like?

My hobby is playing bathminton and swimming. Swimming is so fun during hot summer days, but its not fun in rain. My favorite colours is orange, green and yellow.

I like KAS because I have many friends there. I have one teacher and one teacher assistant in my class. Their names are Mrs. Wood and Mrs. Amira. They are very good teachers. They help me a lot. I like my teachers. What about you? Do you like your teacher? Do you like reading? Do you like the flower?

I hope you can answer my questions.

Sincerely, Anis  
(uh-niece).



February 8, 2011

Dear Ally,

Hi my name is Liza. I hope we can be friends. I would like to get to know you if that's OK with you. I live in Riadh, Khartoum, Sudan. I have five best friends: Alyssa, Farah, Lydia, Yaras, and Ayesha. Who is your best friend if you don't mind me asking.

My favorite thing to do is ride my horses, watch T.V, play on my computer. Do you have an e-mail, if you do can I have it please? I have visited many places like the Bahamas. I travel a lot. My dad is a business man. My favorite place I've been to is Vancouver. What's your favorite thing to do? My favorite horse is Cloony. My second favorite horse is Fobby. Tell me everything about yourself please.



Your Pen Pal,  
Liza 

February 7, 2011

Dear Devlyn,

How are you and your friends?  
My name is Mamoun. I am ten years old. I go to the Khartoum American School. I liked your class video. Your duck was cool. Why do you like Fresca? I have traveled to the USA, England, Turkey, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Holland, and Thailand. I have also travelled to New York and Virginia. They are my favorite states. How is the weather in Colorado?

At first I thought you were a boy but after the video I knew you were a girl. I am a boy. I like school especially science.

What kinds of things do you like to do? I like tennis and horseback riding. I love soda. Coca Cola, Fanta and pepsi are the best.

Sincerely,  
Mamoun

February 6, 2010

Dear Kyle,

Hello, my name is Tony. I'm ten years old and I'm Chinese. What animal do you like? I like cat. And what sport do you like? I like batminton. What do you do in your vacation? I often sleep intill 11:20, then, I do a few of my homework, then, I go to eat lunch. After lunch, I'll finish my homework, then, I'll play batminton with my family. After that, I'll eat dinner, then, take a bath, and sleep.

Do you think I'm fun? Oh, and sudan is beautiful, too. If you have time, you can visit sudan.

sensevely, Tony

February 6, 2011

Dear Gonner,

Hi how are you doing, i hope you are fine. Let me tell you about my self. My name is Mohamed. Toure' yes i know my name is funny. I like sports. I travel around the world with my family. I am a new student in KAS. I speak English, French and a bit of proper Arabic and i'm going to learn Spanish. My dad speak's 5 languages. I am from America, Texas, Dallas. Now i want to know about you.

What is your family's name?  
How old are you?

What do you like to do in your country?  
Where is the best place you have been to?  
Well bye, and good luck.

Sincerely  
Mohamed

February 6, 2011

Dear Makayla,

Hi my name is Yara, I'm from Egypt. I have two brothers. The weather in Sudan is very hot. You were right when you said Freska is Cool it's really Cool.

I love drawing and coloring my favorite colors are pink and purple, I look more better with pink. I love soccer it's really Cool I'm also good at it, I also love pizza "Yum" how about you what is your favorite food? I like ms. Wood she is a really nice teacher. Have you ever been to Egypt?

I have black hair but I wear a veil and I have dark brown eyes.

Your friend,

Yara !!

February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Dear Lorenna,

Hi my name is Ayesha. I'm from Pakistan, but I live in Sudan. It is so hoooooot. I'm 11 years old. I love soccer . I also like to draw. Lorenna you said that you like softball, is it really a softball or a hardball, now that was a silly question!

I love chicken pizza with ketchup, I also like ice-cream. My favorite ice-cream is melo-verda. I love to tease my brother, it is so fun, but the problem is that when I tease him and he screams I get into trouble. Well talk to you later.

P.S Visit Sudan and meet me. bye.

Your friend  
Ayesha.

February 12<sup>nd</sup> / 2011

Dear Kerrie,

My name is James. I was born in Arizona but I'm Korean. I lived in Kenya for 4 years and this is my first year in Sudan. My hobby is to play soccer and basketball. My school is called KAS, Khartoum American School. I HATE! HATE! cricket (the bug and the sport). I've been to, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Zanzibar, England, Korea, Sudan, Qatar, Dubai, U.S. My favorite T.V show is The Simpsons. I have 1 sister. She's in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. My dad works in Samsung, the electronic company. I like American football, but I don't play it. I like P.E and I don't like math and writing. I'm in KAS soccer team. We are 1<sup>st</sup> in district! We are going to the finals on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

What is your favorite subject? What is your favorite soccer team? My favorite soccer team is Chelsea. Why don't you like baseball?

I hope you reply quick. bye

Sincerely,  
James

February, 7, 2011

Dear Ellie,

How old are you? I am almost 11. I also like math but only some times. What kind of animals do you like? I like dogs. I saw you in the video, you look really pretty! My best friends are Alyssa, Lydia, Liza, and Eva but she is in a different class. I come from Holland or the Netherlands. My dad works in the Dutch embassy of Khartoum. I live in an area called Khartoum 2. When is it your birthday? My birthday is February 15. I am reading a great book, it's called: "The Second Summer of the Sisterhood". Do you have a favorite book? I have a sister called Yasmine. My dog is called Roxy. My dog is a street dog, we found her on the street when she was born.

Khartoum is usually hot, it can get up 50°C or 122°F. My mom works here in school. It is pretty annoying, because she has to go to meetings and I have to stay in her class. My mom is a teacher in preschool. I also like to write letters. I have been to Zanzibar, Australia, Kenya, Suriname, and some places that I forgot. I love Australia because I got to feed a kangaroo and hold a koala. My favorite color is purple. I have lived in Zambia and Indonesia.

Sincerely,

Farah

February, 6<sup>th</sup> 2011

Dear Anna,

Hi how are you? I heard it's cold in Colorado, good luck with that. Here in Sudan it's not really cold. By the way I also like dogs and other animals. My favorites are dogs and dolphins. What are your dogs names? Wich one bites? I have one german-shepherd called Mars. Like the planet. Are you ever going to visit Africa or Sudan? I hope you do because I really want to see you. I'm from Khartoum, Sudan and I live there. My favorite foods are pizza, BBQ chicken, vegetable, and fruits. I have two brothers and one sister, four all together, including me. My birthday is on Jan 27<sup>th</sup>. Whenever it's 2012 I am almost twelve, whenever it's 2013 I'm almost thirteen, you probably get the idea because my birthday is on the first month of the year. When is your birthday? My dream place to go is Canada, because my grandma and cousin's from my dad's side are there. My four best friends are Farah, Alyssa, Eva, and Liza. I have another best friend called Adila but she traveled away.

Sincerely,  
Lydia

February 2, 2011

Dear Cade,

Hi My name is Moses. I'm from Sudan. I have short hair. I am a boy and I'm good at soccer. I have three brothers and two sisters and I like all kinds of sports. I study in KAS. My favorite player is Messi do you have a favorite player? I like all Messi's. I have psp and laptop. I have six questions, first how many brothers do you have? When I grow up I want to be a soccer player.

Second do you have a Facebook account? What do you do always at your house? I often play videogames I like to speak Arabic did you know that I'm a joke maker too. The last thing I'm going to tell you that I like the color green.

Sincerely,



Moses David

February 17, 2011

Dear Santiago,

My name is Mohamed. I live in Sudan. The weather is very hot. My favorite color is green. I traveled to London, Dubai, Egypt and lots of many places. My favorite places is London. I have one brother and two sisters. My favorite things are Xbox, Psp, Ps3, iPad and electronic things. My favorite sports are Soccer, Basketball, and kick ball.

I get a ride everyday because I live very far from school. When I grow up I want to be a businessman. Our school is big. My favorite team is Real Madrid and my favorite player is C. Ronaldo.

Sincerely,  
M.I

February 6, 11

Dear Skylo,

Hi my name is Bashir, I think it's cool that you have 11 siblings. I like soccer, PS3, and Facebook. This season I scored 39 goals. My favorite PS3 game is FIFA 11, PES 11, C.O.D. Black Ops. Do you have a Facebook?

I live in a compound it's only for my family it's next to the Nile. I get a ride to school because I don't live close to the school. My favorite team is Liverpool, and my favorite player is S. Gerrard. At home I watch soccer games and I play Millionaire City on Facebook. I also play FIFA 11 on my PS3. I have 4 brothers.

Sincerely,  
Bashir

February 7, 2011

Dear Lorena,

My name is Siti Nur Balqis. I am from Malaysia but I live in Sudan. My school's name is "Khartoum American School" but all the people call it KAS for short. Sudan is too hot but in morning it's so cold in winter. My favorite hobby is drawing and colouring. My ambition is to be a teacher, nurse or a scientist. I have six family members. It is my mom, dad, sister, me, brother and my favorite baby brother. My favorite colours are rainbow and gold. My favorite sport is swimming and badminton. My favorite food is my mother cooking. My favorite animals are birds, cats, horses, rabbits, bees, turtles and fish. My favorite subject is Math.

In Malaysia we have the tallest twin tower, called KLCC. That mean Kuala Lumpur City Center. I want to ask you more questions. What your favorite hobby? Ambition? colours? Sports? animals? and subjects? How much members you have in your family?

Your friend,  
Balqis

February 3, 2010

Dear Kyran,

I am from Philippines. My favorite hobby is playing with my DS, PSP and Xbox. My favorite TV shows are Pokemon, The Simpsons and Viva Pinata. I like the game Pokemon heart gold on my DS because I find it very amusing. I like to read Diary of a Wimpy Kid books. I am the only child. My favorite period at school is recess.

What is your favorite show? What is your favorite book? Do you have bullies in your school? Have you been to Jordan? Do you like babies? I don't! That's all I can think of to say so byebye.

Sincerely,  
Jairus

February 7, 2011

Dear Gabrielle,

My name is Husna. I'm 12 years old. I'm from Malaysia, but I have lived in Khartoum, Sudan for 4 years. The letter you sent me is really nice and tidy. I'm very glad to read the letter you gave me.

I like science and swimming, and I am learning gymnastics now. I have some questions for you. How old are you? Are you the only child in your family? I'm not, I have one sister and four brothers. (I'm the youngest.) I have four family members that are in Malaysia (one is in boarding school, and three in college.) What's your favorite colours? My favorite colours are black, blue, green, purple, & violet. What's your hobbies? My hobbies are reading, singing, & cheerleading (I'm the captain). What's your favorite flavor? I like vanilla & chocolate chip. Where did you go on your holidays? In my holiday, I went to Egypt. I saw the three biggest pyramids, the sphinx and many more. What's your favorite place to go? My favorite place is Paris. Have you been to Paris? I've been. It was amazing! (but is kinda cold there.)

I hope you'll love my letter and I wish you could tell all about yourself.

Your Pen Pal,  
Husna 

February 3, 2011

Dear Quinns

Hi my name is Hamada you can call Mohamed too. What is your favorite thing to do mine is video games, drawing, and soccer by soccer I mean soccer as in playing by foot, we play it everyday at lunch and Break. My mom is from Washington/Seattle, and my dad is from Africa/Sudan. Where are you from?

In my family there is, my sister, my brother, and my mom and dad. My sister is in university, she is nineteen years old. My brother is here in Africa with me he is very hyper. He is seven years old. I traveled to four places Saudi Arabia, America, Africa (Sudan), and Egypt. My favorite place I traveled is when I went to America I love going there because I like to see my Grandma and her dog and my Grandpa. My sister is there too.

P.S I like Pokémon do you?

Sincerely,  
Hamada

February 2, 2011

Dear Kathryn,

Hi. My name is Alyssa. I am 10 years old. I come from Switzerland and France, but my dad works in Sudan. My school is called Khartoum American School, KAS for short. Sometimes in Sudan the weather changes. For example in December and January it can be cold! But in other months we are all burning. How old are you? For my activities I do horse riding, piano and I swim a lot. My best friends are Farah, Liza, Lydia and Eva. Farah is beautiful, Liza is funny, Lydia is drawing really nicely and Eva is not in my class but I always play with her! My favorite food is pizza and salad. I travel a lot around the world, I went to Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Zanzibar and other countries that I don't remember. My favorite color is blue. What is your favorite color? I also do some tennis and I am really good at it. At what time do you go to school? I go to school at 7:50 am, that is really early! I hate when my dad is traveling without my family then I cry the whole day!!! 😞 I really like to draw, and I think I draw nicely. I like sports and I do it all the time. As you can see I am also never bored!!! 

From,  
Alyssa