

NEWS

news from the trunk
Thursday, April 14th, 2011

The Magic Box

Wright

I will put in the box....

by Kit

Earth Day Family Picnic

Friday, April 15th, 2011 from 3-7pm



A Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

This week I would like to pay a special tribute to the High School students who are a part of the Community Service Learning class. This outstanding group of students has been quietly performing exceptional work in the community and mirroring many of the values that we hold dear here at KAS. Led by Ms. Kelley, they have initiated a wide cross section of activities that include; fundraising for an orphanage, helping homeless people with donations of food and clothing, providing entertainment to an old people's home as well as teaching Mathematics to a group of Sudanese workers. In terms of providing service to our school community, students from this group have also been coaching some of the elementary students in a range of sports.

Additional to this they also distinguished themselves along with many of our Grade 12 students in escorting people around the campus on our recent Open Day. The opportunity for prospective parents to meet and engage with such a proud, confident and articulate group of students must have surely helped in leaving a lasting impression on them.

News of their exploits has not only inspired me but has also made me reflect upon what wonderful role models they are for our younger students. I am sure that I speak for everyone when I say we are all proud of them.

As always have a great weekend.

A Letter from the Elementary Principal, Ben Voborsky

Administrators and teachers everywhere recognize the important contributions parents make toward a student's success in school. There is no question about it - success at school begins at home. Parents are the single most important variable in a student's schooling. Parents model both a silent and spoken language in front of their children daily.

One of the most important components of a good school is the partnership between the school and parents who work together for the best interest of children. The close partnership between home and school is one of the exceptional strengths that we promote at Khartoum American School.

I hope your family participated in the annual KAS Science Fair last week. We had a great turn out and there were some amazing presentations from Grade 5 through High School. Mr. Tony Paar, the Science Department, and students worked hard to prepare interesting and interactive projects using the scientific process.

KAS has a strong group of supportive, hard-working parents. Throughout the year parents have the opportunity to develop that partnership in a wide variety of ways. Parents join the PTA, volunteer in the classroom, help at the bazaar, attend school events, organize soccer, read to their children and help in many other ways. It is important to your children that you are involved in some way at school. It's a way to let your student know you think his or her school is important.

Tomorrow, the KAS will host the Earth Day Family Picnic from 3-7pm. I hope to see you there! (bvoborsky@krtams.org)

Magic Box

Second graders have recently completed a creative writing unit on poetry. The students looked at a variety of poems from a range of authors and decided on the poem "Magic Box" by Kit Wright. Together, they wrote a poem to use as a base for writing their own "Magic Box" model. In this unit, they identified and brainstormed descriptive words such as shiny, sparkly, twinkly, scare, etc. The process included writing drafts of their poem, editing, adding more descriptive words, and finally, publishing their final draft on the computers. Grade 2 students also designed, created and painted their own magic boxes. Everyone is welcome to visit the Grade 2 classroom and the students will be happy to show you their poems!!!

The Magic Box, by Kit Wright

I will put in the box

the swish of a silk sari on a summer night,
fire from the nostrils of a Chinese dragon,
the tip of a tongue touching a tooth.

I will put in the box

a snowman with a rumbling belly
a sip of the bluest water from Lake Lucerene,
a leaping spark from an electric fish.

I will put into the box

three violet wishes spoken in Gujarati,
the last joke of an ancient uncle,
and the first smile of a baby.

I will put into the box

a fifth season and a black sun,
a cowboy on a broomstick
and a witch on a white horse.

My box is fashioned from ice and gold and steel,
with stars on the lid and secrets in the corners.
Its hinges are the toe joints of dinosaurs.

I shall surf in my box

on the great high-rolling breakers of the wild Atlantic,
then wash ashore on a yellow beach
the colour of the sun.



The Nile Book Awards (International Book Club with Uganda and KICS)

KAS results are in! The White Nile Award as voted on by KAS 4th and 5th graders:

- 1st place, Red Pyramid
- 2nd place, Mr. Stink
- 3rd place, Madame Pamplemousse and Her Time-Traveling Cafe
- 4th place, The Sisters Grimm (Did not receive a single vote!)

The Blue Nile Award as voted on by KAS 2nd and 3rd graders:

- 1st place, The Man Who Lost His Head
- 2nd & 3rd place tied, Almost Zero , The Night Fairy
- 4th place, Lob

Next week we will learn the results from Uganda and KICS. Let's see what their students thought about these books and how they voted.

Community Service Projects

Movie Night: Just Go With It

Wednesday, April 20th at 7pm

Tickets: 10 SDG

Our community service group has come together to help the less fortunate and take a step towards making the world a better place. Our project targets the poor and hungry of Khartoum. We have asked the homeless near by a cemetery what they needed and they said clothes and food. We are organizing a movie night to raise money to buy the food and supplies. The movie is "Just Go With It" featuring Jennifer Aniston and Adam Sandler. Its rated PG-13 for grades 8-12. Ali, Hussein, Yousif and Sarah are selling the tickets. Hope to see you there!

Movie Night for Elementary: Tangled

Wednesday, April 20th from 5pm-7pm

Cost: 7 SDG with 1 free popcorn and 1 free drink.

Extra snacks will be available for purchase

In Sudan, there is a large community of senior citizens who are taken care of in a retirement home. Our group has visited them and after talking to them, we discovered that one of the biggest problems in living in a retirement home is having a boring routine. So we decided, as a group, to use the money we make at the movie night to hire entertainers and to entertain the elderly in the retirement home. So buy a ticket to help out a senior citizen!



Science Fair Winners!

Congratulations 2011 Science Fair 'Fan Favorites'

1st • Elia Ayad and Gontse Kgwete
Which Surface Has the Most Friction?

2nd • Taro Nakagaki
Testing the pH of Various Foods

3rd • Haider Ahmar
Does Talking to Plants Affect Their Growth?



Dates to Remember

New Understandings about Thinking with Dave Zakem at 7:30pm

Monday and Tuesday, April 18th and 19th

Long Weekend

April 21st – April 25th

PTA meeting at 7:30am

Thursday, April 28th

Teachers Wanted

High School ESL • Special Needs Teacher • Part-time Biology Teacher (at Advanced Placement Level)



Part of the curriculum for the new KAS Community Service Learning class is to create small, individual groups and complete a service project by the end of the semester. Leticia Dornelas & Bethel Tafere, one of the groups from the class, will be having a toy drive for ES/MS students throughout the month of April, where used toys will be brought in by students. These toys will be donated to Mygoma orphanage, along with other supplies that will be purchased through funding from the upcoming bake sale on Monday, a movie night, and a Walk-A-Thon. So help support the Community Service class by bringing in toys this month!

A message from the Learning Center

Attention parents! Would you like some reading strategies to help your students complete their homework?

If your student is reading a fictional story book or novel:

- Ask them to make predictions about upcoming passages and chapters.
- Help them figure out new vocabulary by asking them to look at the context of the sentence.
- If students still need help with definitions, help them locate a dictionary.
- Help them imagine they are a part of the story by encouraging their opinions about characters and events.

Students who are reading passages in history text books can use similar strategies.

- Discuss the importance of analyzing titles and headings. They provide summaries of the upcoming information, and will give students a strong grasp of the main points of each paragraph.
- Encourage students to read and understand these headings, before they begin reading the text.
- Students should read through the passages, and locate difficult or new terms. Help students to define these terms, and then reread the text to enhance understanding.
- Students may be assigned comprehension questions by their teacher. Make sure that students read these questions before they read the text. Students will be able to focus on the information better, if they know what information they are expected to remember. **Happy reading!**

Volleyball News

The U19 boys played hard in the finals with only 5 players on the court, but were defeated in the 3rd set to come in 2nd place for the season. Your team was represented by:

Grade 12: Ahmed Sidahmed, Tony Liu, Grade 11: Badr El-Nefeidi, Moumin El-Nefeidi, Grade 10: Basel Al-Harbi, and Yousif Makram, coached by Mr. Paar.

The U14 boys suffered the same fate as the U19 boys, by playing tough in the finals, but coming up short to come in 2nd place for the season. Your team was represented by: Grade 8: Arif Abayazi, Grade 7: Amir Abayazi, Yousef Al-Harbi, Elia Ayad, Matias Barrios, Sem Haile, Lance Phillips, Danial Ramzi, Grade 6: Thaqif A. Rommil, Gontse Kgwete, Mohammed Salama, Afiq Sahabudin.

The U14 girls played their best game of the season in the finals, but in the end came in second. Coach Paar is VERY proud of the improvement and effort from the team this year. Way to go girls! Your team was represented by: Grade 8: Lina Babiker, Rania Hassan, Rawan Omer, Grade 7: Amna Al-Hammadi, Deena Elomarabi, Grade 5: Ayesha Saeed, and Yara Salama.

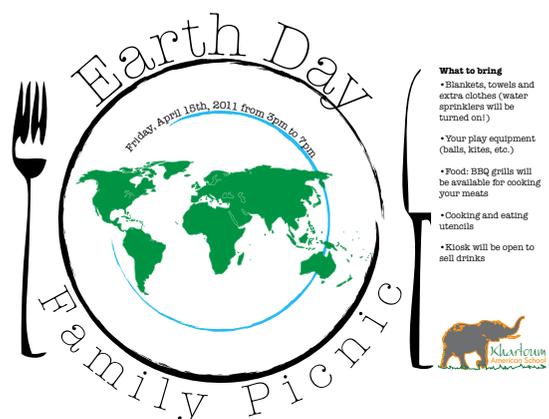
Volleyball players, please return your **clean** uniforms to Mrs. Paar ASAP. Thank you.

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.



Magic Box - By kit Wright

I will put in the box....

A big ugly human

Delicious boy soup from twinkly
earth

A crazy dog and funny cat

Amazing Dinosaur tall and healthy
from cool Pluto.

By Eiman

Magic Box - By kit Wright

I will put in the Box...

A Shiny , golden diamond that
sparkles
in the Sun.

A big fiery hot sun that only
sparkles in the light of God.

Everyone that I like and Animals
and nature that gives us life and
something magic that gives us life
and what we need.

By: Zoe

Magic Box - By kit Wright

**I will put in the box a smelly
huge ugly girl.**

**A smart good boy from a scary
dark underground.**

**A bad enormous dinosaur from
the cold freezing planet Uranus.**

**A handsome prince from a king's
sparkly shiny castle.**

By Asher

Magic Box - kit Wright.

I will put in the box

Lots of small, beautiful, shiny stars from my eye.

A big house from a persons shoe.

~~A huge enormous diamond heart made of water.~~

An incredible, hungry golden shark.

By: Elbashir Hamid

Magic Box – By Kit Wright

I will put in the box

A shiny , giant star cake.

Beautiful, secret moons from an alien.

A golden diamond from Jupiter.

Magic, sunny shoes.

By: Yahiaa

Magic Box By: Kit Wright

I will put in the box.....

A magic sparkly cake that comes
from love.

A beautiful shiny, blue diamond.

A pink small giraffe that comes from
water.

Beautiful black moons like a ruler.

By: Aissatou

Magic Box. By: kit Wright.

I will put in the box.....

A dark, scary moon from my pocket.

An adorable, big butterfly from a human's stinky shoe.

A big, giant, nice book from an eyeball.

A huge, magic brain from a helping hand.

By:Ruba

MAGIC BOX - BY KIT WRIGHT

I will put in the box.....

A sparkly, green plant from a humans eyeball.

A giant chapter book from a girl's eyebrow.

A beautiful, colorful butterfly from a shiny pencil box.

A tiny, small ant from a tall water bottle.

By Nada.

Magic Box - By kit Wright

I will put in the box.....

A little, shiny mouse.

A big, rough snowman from a
sparkly star.

A hungry, mean giant.

Crazy, tall airplanes from a
enormous hot king.

By: Adam

Magic box. By: Kit Wright

I will put in Box.....

A round shiny grape and a sharp carrot.

A yummy chocolate bar, from a dark blue
sky a juicy

Red apple. A purple magic carpet that
wooshes ,

From a green leafy forest.

By: Brook.

Magic Box – Kit Wright

I will put in the box.....

A delicious, red apple, that looks very healthy.

A grumpy, bumpy, crazy troll that lived under a bridge.

A talkative, funny pirate that owns a golden treasure box that he never lets people steal.

By: Yasmine Moreel

MAGIC BOX - BY KIT WRIGHT

I will put in the box.....

A sparkly, new car.

A green, dark dinosaur from a shiny forest.

37 silly, gray rats from outer space.

A yellow, fat monster.

By: Vishesh