

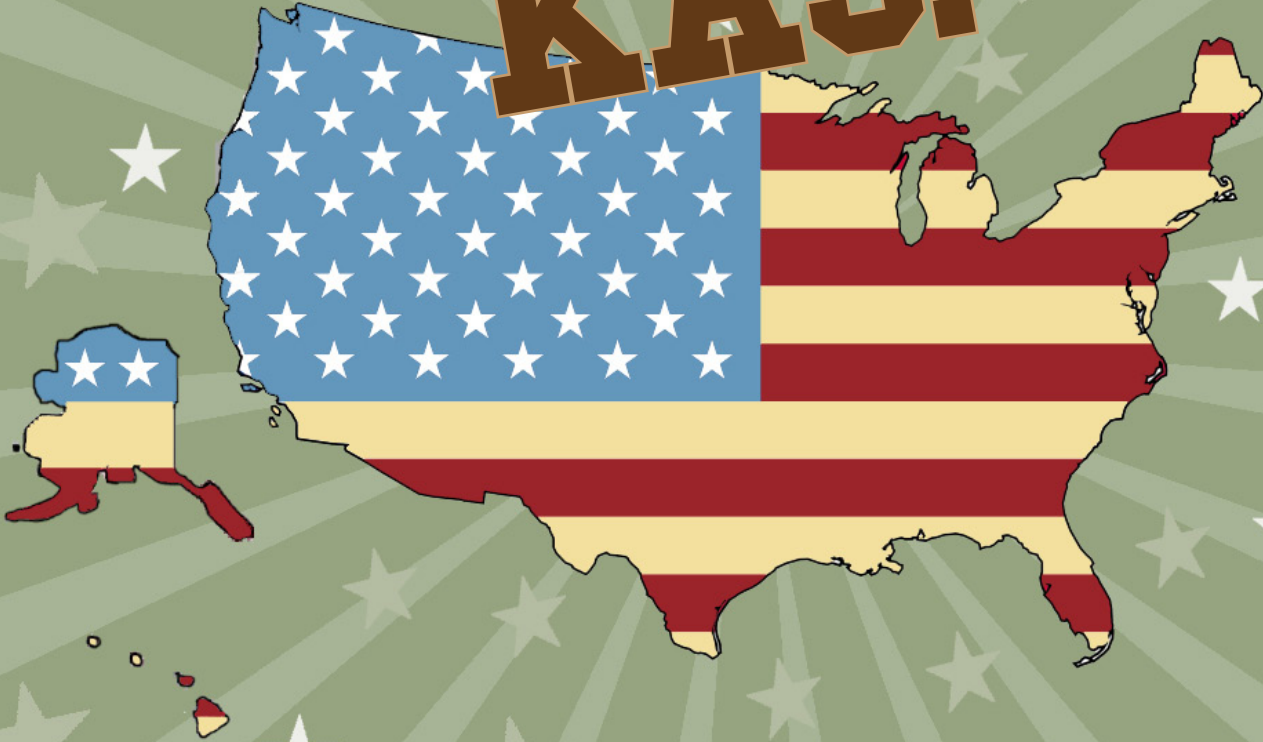
NEWS

news from the trunk

Thursday, November 8, 2012

Election Fever Hits

KAS!



*President Obama
wins reelection!*

Long Weekend (Islamic New Year)

From Thursday, November 15 to Saturday, November 17, 2012



Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Election fever hit KAS this week and rather than focusing on the big student council elections, all eyes were on a slightly bigger event, namely the U.S. Presidential elections that were just completed.

Throughout the week I was pleased to witness the Grade 12 Comparative Government class set up an election campaign that actively exposed the virtues of both candidates. While their sterling efforts may not have had a massive impact stateside, they certainly made great arguments for both candidates and helped many undecided voters (and many of the non-voters) in the audience get a clearer picture of the stakes and the issues at hand. Following this several mock voting centers were set up throughout the school and from the results it appears that the majority of our students have a deep affection for President Obama.

For all of us watching from sunny Khartoum, our obvious wish is that with the election over the government will work hard once more in terms of developing foreign policy and showing leadership throughout the world in order to bring happiness, peace and prosperity for all. One of our ultimate wishes of course is that the two great nations, the U.S.A. and Sudan, will hopefully normalize relations and get on with the task of being friends, trading partners and global allies in the not too distant future.

Though the elections in the U.S. are many miles away their impact is felt all around the world and as President Obama commences his second term we are hopeful that our school continues to be a happy, friendly place in a world full of hope and optimism.

As always, have a great weekend.

PTA Aqua Family Picnic

Welcome to KAS PTA's first aqua picnic on Friday,
November 16, 2012 from 2:00 pm to 6:30 pm.

It will **NOT** be in the pool, but we will have fun with water sprinklers, balloons and other water related games and activities for the whole family. Please bring a change of clothes for your kids as they will get wet.

Food and drinks available!
BBQ-s are on!

The swimming pool will be **CLOSED** during the family picnic.

Letter from the Middle and High School Principal, Susan Boutros

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have all had a relaxing break.

On Tuesday, report cards were sent home. A report card is one of the many ways teachers communicate with parents and students. Here are some helpful tips for parents regarding report cards:

Meet privately with your child, without distractions, to discuss your child's report card.

Be sure you have enough time. Your child deserves your attention without interruptions. Be sure you allow enough time for a relaxed discussion.

Start with a review of what the child has learned in each subject during the past grading period. Ask your child to tell you about the activity in each subject. Talk about what the child has learned.

Ask your child to tell you how the report card grade was determined in each subject. Tests? Homework? Reports? Class participation?

Ask your child to tell you if he/she is satisfied with the grade. If not, what could the child do to improve the grade? Discuss concrete steps your child could take. How can parents help?

Review other indicators on the report card such as teacher's comments and number of absences. Listen to your child's explanation of each indicator.

Discuss your child's goals for the next grading period. Are the goals reasonable and challenging?

Help your child plan his or her next steps. Should your child talk with the teacher to discuss concerns, explain new goals, or ask for the teacher's suggestions? Are changes needed in your child's study habits at home? Is your child interested in learning more about certain topics?

Discuss your next steps. If your child is to talk with the teacher, will you discuss the meeting with your child afterwards? How will you help your child meet his/her goals? If your child is interested in learning more about certain topics, what can you do to help?

How about meeting with the teacher or sending the teacher a note? As a result of your discussion with your child about his/her report card, do you have questions to ask the teacher? Do you now have information about your child that would be helpful to the teacher? Do you want to show your appreciation for the teacher's work or just say "thanks?"

When praise is in order, let your child know you are proud of his or her efforts. When changes must be made, let your child know that you will help. Leave the discussion with a firm understanding of everyone's next steps.

Author and Illustrator Frances "Panch" Alcaraz visits KAS!



Grade 3 had the pleasure of inviting children's book author and illustrator Frances "Panch" Alcaraz to speak to our class. Grade 4 was also able to join in on the fun! During her visit, Panch introduced us to how books are made.

She also led us through creating our own fantasy story with a hero and a villain. Finally, Panch gave us the task of creating our own fictional creatures. It was a lot of fun to use our imagination to illustrate our own fantasy creatures. We may even have a few future illustrators in our midst!

In Other News: In Grade 3, we have been learning about realistic fiction in reading class, and personal narratives in writing class. The two have gone together hand in hand, and students led Thursday's Elementary assembly by sharing what they have learned about personal narratives.



HALLOWEEN PARADE

The annual KAS Elementary Halloween Parade was extremely scary this year. We had a great time marching around in our creepy (and cute) costumes. Thanks to everyone who participated, it was "spook-tacular."



GIFT of Giving Program

Thank you!

On behalf of the P.T.A. and the Community Service Learning Group, I would like to thank everybody involved in the Gift of Giving Project. Special thanks go to Haska, Ivana, Kris, Hope, Hapto and Mirghani who put a tremendous amount of effort and time into this program, well done, a great job!

Congratulations go to Mr. C, Miss Erini and Grade 1 who won the Gift of Giving Donation Challenge, well done, you are truly awesome! Another special thanks to Noon, Mira, Susan and Alice who rolled up their sleeves and helped pack the donations ready for distribution. A big, big thank you to everybody who donated, you all made this event an incredible success. I know for sure that all of your donations are greatly appreciated. Another big thank you goes to students, families and friends who donated clothes, and the Community Service Learning group from last academic year that worked so hard to collect these clothes.

Finally, thanks to the current Community Service Learning team, in particular Lamease and Iris, who organized an excellent high school dance and collected funds, which once again will go to a worthy cause of their choice.

Mr. Michael-Community Service Learning

The Presidential Campaign Comes to KAS

For the past month, the Grade 12 Comparative Government has been studying the government of the United States, with a special focus on the current presidential campaign. After learning the basics of the U.S. government and analyzing the distinctive Electoral College system, the students were divided into two teams, with one team representing Barack Obama and the other representing Mitt Romney. Each team was given the task of researching seven major issues and developing an extensive campaign, including writing and delivering speeches, analyzing the debates, and designing commercials, for their candidate.

After returning from the Eid break, the 12th graders presented their campaigns to the entire middle and high school, along with several faculty members, and on election day (November 6) held a mock election to see which candidate the KAS voters preferred. Although Obama won in the final voting, both teams gained additional support and new votes for their candidate as a result of their presentations. Both teams did a fantastic job of promoting their candidate while learning huge amounts about the unique election process in the United States. Great work!





**I WANT YOU
TO DO YOUR BEST!**



Anna-KG, Lewan-G1, Muhammed Motoe-G2, Muhaned-G3, Hamadelnilil-G4, Rafiza-G5, Celeste-G6, Abdulrahman-G7.

Elementary School Math problem:

Kindergarten: Draw eight smiley faces.

Grade 1: What is the total value of one dime, 2 nickels and a penny?

Grade 2: On Monday, the temperature in Portland, Oregon was 59F. It was 102F in Khartoum, Sudan. Write a subtraction sentence to determine the difference in temperatures and tell which city was colder.

Grade 3: There were 80 people at the concert on Saturday and 50 people at the concert on Sunday. How many people attended the concert altogether?

Grade 4: . If the minimum in a set of data is 29 and the maximum is 45, what is the range?

Grade 5: 1. Write an example of when you would use estimation.
2. Write an example when you would need to find an exact answer.

Middle School Math problem:

Bonnie has coins totalling more than \$1 but cannot make change for a dollar. What is the greatest amount of money in coins that she could have?

High School Math problem:

Find the coordinates of the vertex of the parabola $y=3x^2-3x+8$

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: 2, 4; **Grade 1:** cm, metres or km; **Grade 2:** $18+7=25$, $7+18=25$, $25-7=18$, $25-18=7$; **Grade 3:** \$6.37; **Grade 4:** 83, 300; **Grade 5:** 10, 25; **Middle School:** 88%; **High School:** 9.5 and 9.5;

Circle one:

High School Middle School Elementary School

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Answer: _____



Staying Organized

As we plan our weekly Learning Center Corner, we often go to educational articles for inspiration. Many times you have seen us write about a topic and refer you to a website for more information. While searching for some good tips about staying organized, we found an excellent article, which really speaks for itself. It is too long to insert the article here, but we encourage you to go to the website and read it carefully. It is insightful and gives many practical suggestions, including learning the type of learner your child is, and providing an environment that works for him or her, and using planners, timers, and other tools to stay organized.

<http://www.kidsenabled.org/articles/index.php/201001/keeping-students-organized-for-academic-success/>

Sport and P.E. at KAS

Swimming season has ended for now and we are beginning our physical education routine! Although, this really won't be a routine at all!! It will be filled with a varied curriculum and will be fun for everybody.

In Elementary, we will be teaching our students capoeira, soccer, basketball, athleticism, and principles of gymnastics (apart from playing million of fun games for the younger ones).

For those of you who do not know what capoeira is we are about to let you know:

Capoeira is a sport that started in the slave trade years, particularly, the slaves that were transported from Angola to Brazil. Since the slave drivers and the masters did not permit their slaves to fight or practice any aggressive sports, they genuinely practiced self-defense by pretending it was a dance. This quarter won't be enough to make them experts, but it's an excellent sport to improve their motor skills, and of course to learn how to move and use their bodies perfectly.

The soccer season starts next week! Don't forget to come and cheer your children in our matches against other schools, I am sure they will appreciate it very much!