

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, September 13, 2012


College Planning



College Counseling

Tuesday, September 18, from 6:30 pm at KAS





Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,

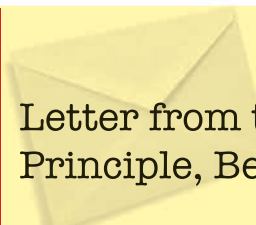
Teachers like many people have certain words that they do not like hearing, they do not like seeing and for some of us, we wish these words could even be erased from the dictionary. For college counselors, those people responsible for ensuring that young high school students become young undergraduates, the word they most detest is "procrastination". For the sake of clarity, procrastination is the act or habit or putting off or delaying, especially something requiring immediate attention. Of course nothing could be more challenging for a college counselor than working with a student who delays his college applications, to the point where his admission is at risk.

Fortunately, we have a wonderful College Counselor at KAS, Mr. Greg Collins who not only brings with him years of experience and expertise in terms of getting students into excellent colleges and universities the world over, but also sends a very strong non-procrastination message to all graduating students and their families. He does this while organizing and implementing our annual college admissions information evening, which takes place very early in the school year. This event will take place next Tuesday evening and is a chance for a great deal of information to be delivered, but also for many important questions to be answered. All Grade 12 students and their families are welcome to attend but I would also extend this invitation to anyone with a child in the High School who would like to get more of idea as to what the process entails. This year, Ms. Tiffany Kelley will also be working with some students in the admissions process and her trademark energy and enthusiasm will go a long way in terms of helping students to reach their goals. If anyone attending would also like to do some preliminary reading, the Khartoum American School, University Admission Guide is on our website and hopefully this will also be a well used resource throughout the year.

To round off some of the events going on in the world of college and university admissions, our friends at the US Embassy are also making a presentation on higher education in the United States and I am sure that this too will be an invaluable insight for all families looking to send their children to the US for their tertiary education. This event will be held on Saturday the 15th of September and more details are available at the counseling office.

It really gave us all a great deal of satisfaction to see our graduating class heading out of KAS last year to some really fantastic universities worldwide. Of course for the class of 2012 it was one of the final stages of a journey that started long ago. For the class of 2013 their journey is now well underway, and thankfully they are in good hands.

As always have a great weekend.



Letter from the Elementary School Principle, Ben Voborsky

I hope all is well with your families and that you enjoyed a fun-filled and relaxing summer. Sadly, some families have moved on from Sudan, but have reported back to us that their children feel very prepared for their classes in their new schools. Most feel that they are ahead of the game and are very familiar with the material being taught because of what they studied here in KAS.

We at KAS are looking forward to another exceptional year. I would like to extend another warm welcome to all of the students and parents new to the KAS community. Joining the Early Childhood and Elementary team are our new classroom teachers Ivana Turchetto, Erica Cousens, and John Charrington. I hope everyone had the opportunity to meet our new KAS community members at Back to School Night.

We have many amazing things happening around KAS. Teachers have been collaborating throughout the summer and were back in their classrooms before the start of school diligently preparing for the new academic year. Kristine Kirby our Grade 3 Teacher will be the new After School Activities Coordinator and with the opening of the swimming pool we can look forward to some great aquatics based activities.

Some of the comments I have heard about the exciting start to the 2012-2013 School Year are:

- Grade 5 led the first poetry assembly, " which empowered each student in different ways."
- Our KAS students "are an absolute dream this year!"
- Reading groups in the morning "are my most successful moment."
- KAS Arabic classes had "a very wonderful and successful time last week."
- "We have had a great start to the school year!"

Thank you for your support in making the KAS community what it is. It was great to see you all at Back to School Night!

Message from the PTA

The PTA would like to welcome all new and returning families, students, and faculty. We hope you are all ready for another exciting school year here at KAS. The PTA was a great success last year, we all enjoyed our picnics, dances and all the fun gatherings that helped our community to become one big happy family. The PTA is looking forward to an even greater success this year. We would like to invite all parents to come together to make this school year the best ever for our students and community!

If you would like to join the PTA, please contact us at:
pta@krtams.org .

Thank you,
The PTA Team

College Newsletter

Last year was an outstanding year for graduating KAS students, with all of them finding a university or college that suited their needs. Some of our students got accepted into prestigious universities such as Penn State, Drexel and De Pauw. Others decided to travel to the United Kingdom to study and these students by all accounts are settling in well in some fantastic universities in Durham and Sunderland. Without doubt, the success of this group was due to hard work and dedication to their studies. However, it's important that we don't forget another very important factor, which is the entry process and procedure required to enter these wonderful institutions. The application process and knowing how to take those steps towards making these academic dreams a reality cannot be understated.

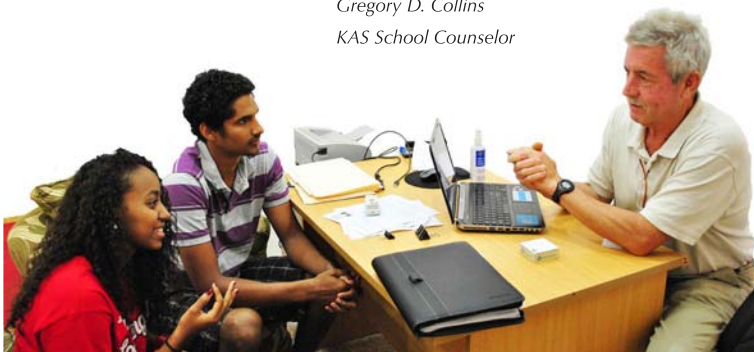
As a new year starts a new crop of young graduates are now preparing to begin their journey towards graduation. The entire process for college applications starts from now until December and requires a great deal of hard work and cooperation between the counselor, parents, students, faculty, and school administrators.

This coming Tuesday along with the School's College Counselors, I will be offering an information evening for parents and students aimed at clearly explaining the whole admissions process. We have laid out all the information in our KAS Universities Admissions Guide and we will be going over many salient points of this during the meeting. Some of the key questions we will be addressing include:

- What colleges or universities are suitable for both student and family?
- How does the counseling office help with college placement?
- What is our placement advising service?
- What meetings will parents and students be required to attend throughout the year?
- What are counselor and teacher recommendations for students?
- What strategies can help students cope with the KAS workload and allow them time to complete the college application process?
- How can the college placement process and academics be successfully monitored at KAS?

There is also an additional seminar called "Education USA", which is a public service provided by the US embassy. This will be held at the Grand Villa Hotel, on Saturday, September 15 at 10:30 am and will be particularly useful for those students planning to attend universities or colleges in the U.S.A.

Gregory D. Collins
KAS School Counselor



Back to School Night in Grade 2!

Thank you to all of the parents who were able to join us in Grade 2 for Back to School Night. The children were very excited to have you come see our classroom and to have you pick up your cards. We are looking forward to a fantastic year in Grade 2. We have a lot of fun things planned and will learn a lot along the way. If you would ever like to volunteer in the classroom, please let Ms. Fredericks know!"



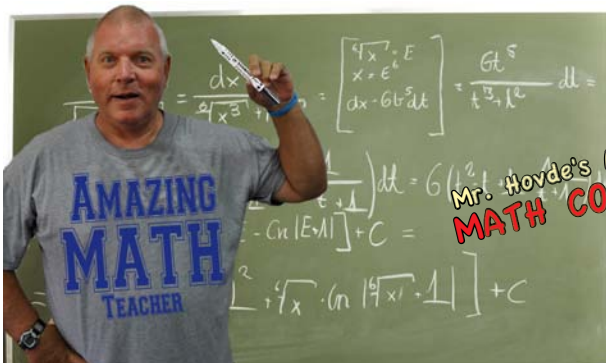
Learning Center Corner

Community Service Opportunity for the KAS Parent Community

Many of you may know about Jane-Ann's farm. She provides hippotherapy for little or no cost to handicapped Sudanese children four times a week and is working toward five times a week. (Sundays and Wednesdays at 9:00 am, Thursdays at 8:30 am, and Mondays and Wednesdays at 5:30 pm.) This program runs on volunteer labor. UNICEF is partnering with Jane-Ann this year and she is planning to increase the service to include play therapy and physiotherapy. In order to make the program a success, she is looking for committed volunteers. She needs twelve people for each session. The only qualifications needed are the availability of time, a desire to volunteer, and a willingness to learn. She currently has several faithful volunteers who are there every Monday and Wednesday evening – while she still needs a few more for those slots, she is in dire need of volunteers for the morning sessions. If you are interested, please send an email to me Rosemary Waterman at rwaterman@krtams.org, or to Jane-Ann directly at <http://www.facebook.com/jeanne.khalid> or <http://miraclessudanhomepage.blogspot.com/>

Please include the following chart.

Name:
Contact information:
Availability (please circle as many as apply to you and your willingness to work): weekly/biweekly, on Sunday/Wednesday/Thursday Mornings, Monday/Wednesday evenings
Want to learn/participate in: (please circle as many as apply to you and your willingness to work): Play therapy, Physical Therapy techniques, Horse riding with a child, Leading the horse Walking alongside the horse and rider
Possible start date:



Mr. Hovde's Amazing MATH CONTEST



Winners:

- Alan-KG,
- Ermina-G1,
- Preet-G2,
- Youssef-G3,
- Ruba-G4,
- Bane -G6
- Chol - G6.

Notes from the Middle School

Please join me in welcoming our brand new Middle School Student Council:

- Justin Vleugel & Mohammed Kamald, Grade 6
- Mohammed Eltigani & Liza Elbarbari, Grade 7
- Baalaj Chaudhary, Grade 8.

They will serve as a link between the student body and the MS teachers and will play a major role in the organization and planning of MS events this year. Also, the Middle School is proud to announce the revamped Sunday Advisory Meetings. The focus this year will be on character building. The students will have the opportunity to interact with friends from other grade levels and carry out activities designed to help them understand concepts such as trust, teamwork, honesty and perseverance etc. Special thanks to our facilitating teachers: Mr. Khalid, Mr. Khalifa, Mr. Hovde, Ms. Rhona, and Mr. Kirby. Last but not least, the MS laptop delivery has started. This week Grade 8 received their brand new MacBook computers. The goal is to integrate them in our daily school activities as a powerful learning tool.

Mr. Sanchez



Elementary School Math problem:

Kindergarten: Write down numbers 1 to 10.

Grade 1: Count to fifty in fives.

Grade 2: Write the five numbers that come after 143.

Grade 3: What number am I?

I am an even number.

I am between 1 and 30.

If you half 12 and add double 4, you will find me.

Grade 4: How would you describe a line segment to someone who has never seen one before?

Grade 5: The number 72 is a composite number. List all the factors of 72.

Middle School Math problem:

Use six 1's to make 99.

High School Math problem:

Completely factor: $6x^2+11x+4$

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: 1,2,3,4,5; **Grade 1:** 1,3,5,7,9,11,13,15,17,19 2,4,6,8,10,12,14,16,18,20; **Grade 2:** 11 (50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, 100); **Grade 3:** 17; **Grade 4:** Answers may vary; **Grade 5:** 120; **Middle School:** (1,5,9), (2,6,7), and (3,4,8), total=15; **High School:** $\frac{32x^{12}}{y^{15}}$ or $\frac{32x^{12}}{\sqrt[15]{y^{16}}}$

Circle one: _____

High School Middle School Elementary School

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Answer: _____

PE Swim Update

This past week, all of the PE classes have been using the pool to develop their aquatic abilities. It has been a huge success! Not only has it been a great way to beat the heat, but also it is clear to see that everyone is really improving. There are even some students who couldn't swim, and in just two short lessons are able to swim up to 10 meters without assistance. At this rate, all of our KAS students will be professionals in no time!

Our lifeguards and swimming instructor, Sara, are doing a fantastic job of making things easy for everyone. With the amount of support in the pool, we are able to have someone helping with the new swimmers, someone helping with the majority of the class, and even someone assisting the strong swimmers to become more technically sound with their strokes.

Students are reminded to come prepared with: swim suit, water bottle, sunscreen, towel, bag for wet clothes, flip flops or sandals and goggles (strongly recommended).

Basketball

The basketball season is now underway. This year, KAS is able to have an U12 boy's team and an U12 girl's team. In previous years, we have not had enough students to fill these two teams. Now we do! You can expect to hear more about all six of our basketball teams in future editions of the newsletter.