

NEWS

news from the trunk

Thursday, August 22, 2013

WELCOME
BACK TO KAS



Back to School Day

Saturday, August 31, from 2:00 pm at KAS



Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! Summer holidays are officially over and it was wonderful to see our community coming together to kick-off another fantastic year at KAS last Tuesday.

As always I would like to extend a special welcome to our new students. Moving to a new school is always a challenge for students and their parents, however I am confident that the warm nature of our staff, students and administrators will go a long way towards making people feel welcome and accepted into our community. Our enrollment this year is looking really strong and this I believe can be attributed to all of the hard work undertaken by our teachers over the past years to make our school strong in every respect.

In terms of changes around campus the new "stone garden" between the Library and Computer Lab has come to fruition and this student led initiative has really transformed a drab part of our campus into something really special. You may notice that our grounds also look a lot greener this year with more grassy areas springing up around the school by design. Already our campus is the envy of most schools in Khartoum and I am sure that we will all get a chance to enjoy it together at our PTA picnics throughout the year.

We have set the date for our Back to School Day for Saturday the 31st of August where parents will be able to meet teachers and discuss the year ahead. This event will commence at 14.00 pm, and will be followed by a BBQ by the pool, however more details relating to this event will be sent home early next week.

I hope the school year has started out exactly the way you had hoped and am sure that this year will easily surpass your expectations.

As always have a wonderful weekend.

Letter from the Elementary School Principal, Susan Boutros

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

Welcome to the 2013- 2014 School Year at Khartoum American School. I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer break and that the students are ready to launch into another exciting and fun-filled year.

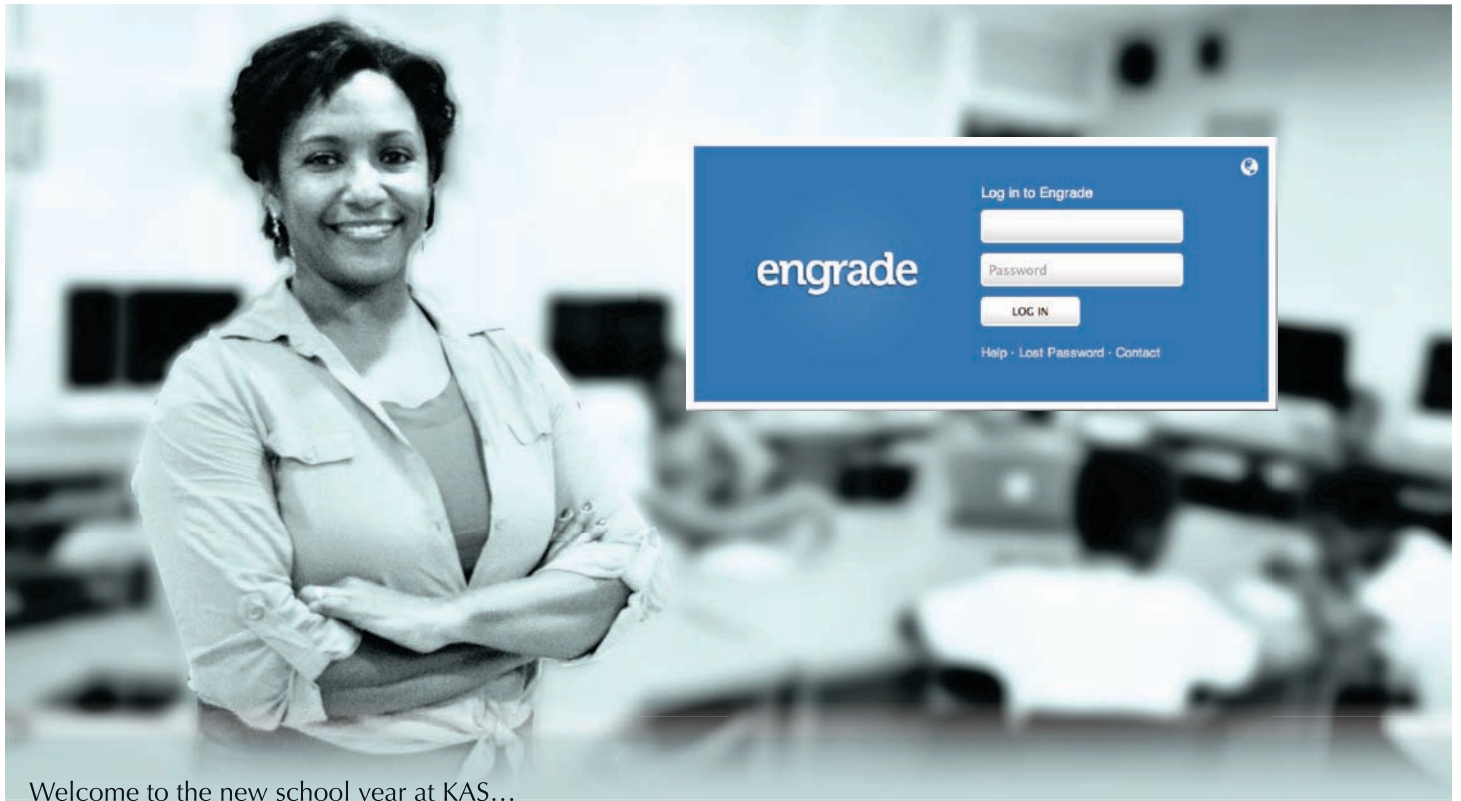
We start the school year with an excellent enrollment. Due to the high enrollment in the early childhood, we had to open an extra pre K class. The school is also witnessing an increase in enrollment in high school as never before. Our student body is still incredibly diverse with over 30 nationalities. Our new teachers have been in Sudan for over a week now. They have now joined our returning faculty and together have formed an exceptional team. The level of enthusiasm from the faculty for the new school year is impressive considering that we also face additional responsibilities such as the completion of our CIS/MSA 5 year accreditation reports. The accreditation team will visit us in early December.

We have had an excellent start to the new school year. It has been very nice to see everyone again and I am pleased to say that all the students have settled very well into their new classes.

I know I speak for everyone at Khartoum American School when I say that we are here to ensure that all our students have an exciting and productive school year filled with many positive learning experiences. As we begin the school year, we are renewed by a sense of passion and energy as we explore new ways of preparing our students for their future. I would like to assure you that not a day passes by, when we are not reflecting on how we can improve as a school.

I wish you all a great school year!





Welcome to the new school year at KAS...

On behalf of the IT department, I would like to welcome all new students and parents and we wish you all the success throughout this school year.

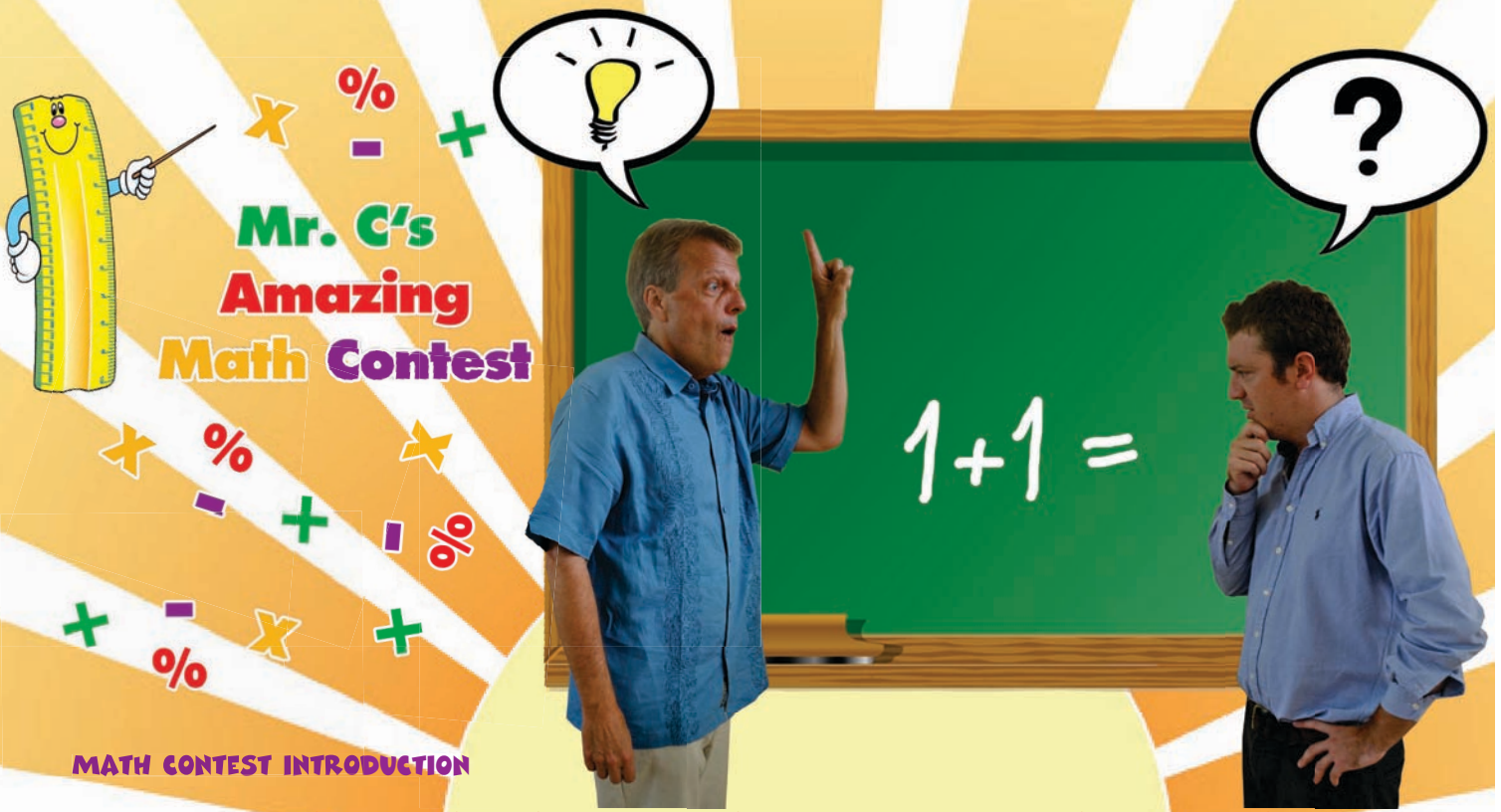
For returning students and parents, we welcome you back and assure you that we are here to help you in gaining the technology skills that you need for your future.

Regarding middle and high school parents, as you all know, last year we were using www.Engrade.com as our Virtual Management System, which allows a two-way communication between teachers and students as well as between teachers and parents. Our experience confirmed that this tool has enhanced our students' performance and engaged them in their learning process. Parents also complimented us in using Engrade and they brought very positive feedback.

We are continuing with our efforts to build a technology system that will foster 21st century skills in our students, enhance their learning, and give them the ability to engage more in their learning process. Therefore, this year we have joined thousands of other teachers around the world and have become a premium member of EngradePro.com. This membership will allow us to use more effective features and manage the students' performance in such a valuable and convenient way. In the upcoming weeks we will be setting up parents' accounts on our new site www.engagepro.com so please watch for login information in your email. More details related to this will be posted soon. Once again welcome back and have a great school year.

Egbal Mohamed, Technology Coordinator





MATH CONTEST INTRODUCTION

Last year, every Monday morning during elementary assembly, we bore witness to 'Mr Hovde's Amazing Math Contest'. We are so happy to announce that we will be coming back even bigger and better this year with 'Mr C's Amazing Math Contest'. Each week, on the back of the newsletter, there will be a question posted for each grade in elementary, as well as one for middle school and one for high school. Answers will be handed in with the name of the student clearly printed by Sunday morning. There will be a box out the back of the office on the picnic table where you can leave your answers. We would really encourage all students to do their best to get their questions in each week and be a part of raising the profile of math within the school. Please remember that it is little programs like this that have helped us raise numeracy levels throughout the school.

School Calendar Academic School Year 2013 - 2014

Aug 20.....First Day of School
 Oct 11 – 19.....Fall Break (Eid al Adha)
 Nov 4.....No School (Islamic New Year)
 Dec 20 – Jan 11.....Winter Break
 Jan 14.....No School (Prophet Mohamed's Birthday)
 Mar 7 – 15.....Spring Break
 Apr 18 – 21.....Long Weekend (Easter and Sham El Nasim)
 Jun 5.....Last Day of School
 Jun 6 – 7.....Faculty Work Days

Total Student Days: 178
 2 Sports Days on Weekends
 3 Professional Development Days
 Subject to change as conditions may warrant

POOL SCHEDULE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6am-9am	Cleaning	6am - 9am	Cleaning	6am - 9am	9am-7pm	9am-7pm
Lap Swimming		Lap Swimming		Lap Swimming		
3pm-7pm	3pm - 6pm	3pm - 6pm	3pm - 6pm	3pm - 7pm		
Ladies Only	Pool Open for School Community	Teachers Only	Pool Open for School Community	Pool Open for School Community	Pool Open for School Community	Pool Open for School Community