

NEWS

news from the trunk
Thursday, September 4, 2014

MSA & CIS

Accreditation Visit



Middle States Association of Colleges & Schools (USA)



Council of International Schools (UK)

5 Years visit
Preparation



KAS

caring, friendly & student centered



STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Dear Parents,

The Khartoum American School has restructured the support services for students to provide well-coordinated, comprehensive support. The team consists of the school nurse, the counselor, the English as an Additional Language (EAL) staff and the Learning Center staff. **SSS** Mission and Vision statements have been developed by the team to provide a unified focus.

Mission

The KAS Learning Center mission is to provide services to students, teachers, and parents by fostering self-awareness leading to skill and strategy development for students to confidently manage their lives.

Vision

Our vision is to encourage the school community to embrace a cooperative, inclusive approach that supports students to reach their full potential.

The African proverb, "It takes a village (community) to raise (educate) a child", applies. We all need to work cooperatively to help children grow to become adults who reaches his/her potential. The **SSS Team** will be writing suggestions and strategies in this newsletter on how to support your child's education. If at any time you'd like to meet about your child please contact the school.

- There will be after school learning support on Sundays, Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:10 – 3:00 in the library for all students.

Strategy for: EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING

Executive function includes the ability to:

- manage time and attention
- switch focus
- plan and organize
- remember details
- curb inappropriate speech or behavior
- integrate past experience with present action

Managing Space and Materials

- Organize work space.
- Minimize clutter. (a collection of things lying about in an untidy mass)
- Consider having separate work areas with complete sets of supplies for different activities.
- Schedule a weekly time to clean and organize the work space (and backpack).

The above information comes from the following URLs.

<http://www.webmd.com/add-adhd/guide/executive-function>
<http://www.nclld.org/types-learning-disabilities/executive-function-disorders/what-is-executive-function>



Fitness and Wellbeing - The Fitness ClubMS/HS

In our lives we get so distracted with work, homework, and day-to-day activities that we neglect one very essential piece—neglect of ourselves. I don't mean indulging our bad habits or our desires. We forget to take care of ourselves, and before you know it our bodies start to ache and we start to complain. We start to complain about old age; it is a sign that something has to change. Well, do not fear, because you are not alone.

Started by one student who strived to better his life, the Fitness Club was thus born. This club is a place where you can push yourself to achieve your fitness and wellbeing goals. Our school community will be starting this afterschool Fitness Club every **Sunday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:00 pm–4:00pm**. Students will be participating in swimming, sports, and various exercises. Our club is available for any middle or high school student. Our goal is to keep our students fit and healthy, and at the same time, have fun in the process.

This club is 100% voluntary to each student. It is made so that each individual pushes their own limits physically to maintain their overall health. There will be no room for slacking or foolery in this club. Those who do not take the club seriously or follow directions will be asked not to come back. Permission slips will be available for students interested in joining our Fitness Club.

Khalid Abdeltam,
MS/HS Science teacher

English Saying



The phrase Beware Of **Greeks Bearing Gifts** is a friendly warning against trickery and deception. This phrase refers to the most famous Greek gift of all, the Trojan Horse. During the Trojan Wars the Greeks had besieged the city of Troy for over ten years. Finally, as they made plans to leave, they built a huge wooden horse as an offering to the gods and a sign of peace. The horse was left at the gates of Troy and, once the Greeks had withdrawn, the people of Troy opened their gates, for the first time in a decade, to receive the apparently harmless gift. However, as soon as the horse was inside, Greek soldiers poured out of the wooden structure and destroyed the city. Virgil, in the *Aeneid* has Laocoon warn the Trojans about accepting the horse, saying, 'I still fear the Greeks, even when they offer us gifts.'

Minette Van der Bijl
HS ESL G.10

Letter from the Superintendent, Dr. Robert Beck

Dear Parents,

We have now completed our third week of school and the children are quite settled. They and their teachers are fully engaged in the learning process.

Although it is understood the “main thing” that we focus on at KAS is academic preparation and moving each child to their next level of excellence, a priority of our mission and vision at KAS is to build a culture of caring and respect. Toward that end we will be emphasizing and supporting the KAS 4 Cs this year and in the years to come. They are: Character, Curriculum, Community and Citizenship. From time to time in my KAS E-news message I will address the importance of the 4 C’s. I ask that you also discuss the KAS 4 Cs with your child.

Today I would like to remind us of our vision to instill in students a strong sense of **Character**. This KAS C states that:

“By helping students to develop self-discipline and a positive self-image, Khartoum American School encourages students to explore their potential and to develop a rich and broad understanding of today’s world. Khartoum American School fosters in students a strong sense of personal commitment and dedication to their own learning.”

When one enters a classroom at KAS, you can immediately sense and experience the effort our staff is engaged in in fostering the development of a child’s self-discipline and a positive self-image. Through our inquiry and exploratory based instructional techniques children are encouraged to ask questions, to challenge existing ideas and to explore new ideas. As they are daily encouraged to do this, they are steadily building a sense of confidence in themselves as competent learners. This in turn leads to a “sense of personal commitment and dedication to their own learning.” That is a very exciting aspect of our mission and vision for the students our great school! I know you agree that the development of this C, strong Character, is a quality and priority for a child that will serve them well for their entire life.

Thank you for your continued support.
I wish you an enjoyable weekend.

Letter from the Middle/High School Principal, Susan Boutros

Dear Parents and Friends,

Thank you to all the students and parents who attended Back to School Night. It was a very successful evening and it was a pleasure seeing so many of you during the evening.

In order to be able to communicate with you, if your contact information has changed, please make sure you notify the school so that we can keep our records up to date. Such contact details (especially telephone numbers) are essen-

tial in times of emergency and when we need to get in touch with you regarding your child’s progress at school. In addition, if your child has developed any serious health issue since they first enrolled at the school and you have not updated us with this information, please do, as soon as possible.

This school year is off to a busy start. Students are already very busy and fully engaged in their classes. 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 November.

Have a great weekend!

Letter from the Early Childhood Center & Elementary School Principal, Phil Centers

Dear Students, Parents, and Community Members,

There is a famous quote from Gandhi that I have hanging in my office: “You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” This quote, while seemingly simplistic, has profound implications for all teachers of children, which includes all adults in a child’s life. For far too long in the history of the world there has been far too much talk about how the world should be, and far too little effective action towards actually transforming the world. How can I make such a bold assertion about history? Well, if all of the talk about changing the world into a better place had been effective, the world would be a much better place by now, wouldn’t it?!

Gandhi knew firsthand from hard experience first in South Africa and then in India that words mean little and actions mean a lot. That’s because words are relatively easy (once you have mastered the language!) and actions are often costly. They require work! Actions force us to live our values and then to go through the difficult process of refining those values that sounded good in our minds but that in the greatest school in the world – the school of life – prove not to be as valuable as we thought they were. Gandhi constantly put his values to the test through his actions, such as in weaving his own clothes instead of buying clothes from those oppressing his people, and walking to the Indian Ocean and making his own salt instead of purchasing salt from those same oppressors. In shifting from talking a good talk to walking a good walk, Gandhi, a single, simple man, changed a nation and the world.

Gandhi’s secret to success is contained in his saying, “You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” Because the world we inhabit all our lives is a reflection of our minds, the only way to transform the world is to transform our minds. And the only way to transform our minds is to switch from words to actions. As educators we strive to do just this through modeling to our students the values we want them to learn. To paraphrase Gandhi, we educators (including parents!) must be the kind of people we want our children / students to become. We must be lifelong learners if we want our students to be lifelong learners. We must be scholars, artists, scientists, historians, transformers of the world if we want our children to be those things. Because of this, we are all lifetime students in the greatest school on earth – the school of life.



MR. MANN'S MATH MINUTE

Elementary School Math problems:

- KG** Write numbers 0-10
- Grade 1** what comes next:
1 _ 3 _ 5 _ 7 _ 9 _
- Grade 2** How much money is there total?
- Grade 3** $121 + 39 = \underline{\quad}$
- Grade 4** Draw and label ray MB
- Grade 5** Each correct answer on a game show is worth 5 points. Last night, a contestant answered 458 questions correctly. How many points did the contestant

Last weeks solutions:
G1. (2), G2. (38), G3. (48), G4. (\$19.25), G5. 15840)

Last weeks WINNERS are!



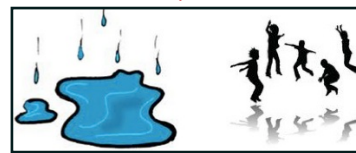
G2. Joyce G1. David G3. Serene G5. Ghoson

Ross's Rebus

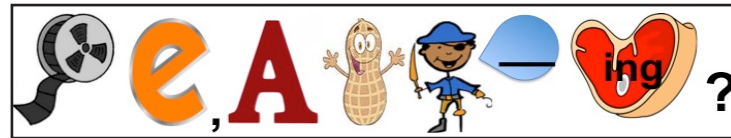
LOOKING 2 C UR ANSWERS!

Elementary Rebus

Middle & High Rebus



Teacher's Rebus



Last weeks solutions:

Elem: Back to school night
MS/HS: Procrastinate

Last weeks WINNERS are!

Elem: Shams Metcalf gr. 3
MS/HS: Elbashir Elbashir gr. 6

EXCITING After School Activities

Sunday,	Monday,	Wednesday
Islamic Studies	Dance	On stage everyone
On stage everyone	Taekwondo	Taekwondo

(2:15-3:05) pm
 KG-2

Sunday,	Monday,	Wednesday
Islamic studies	Fabric painting	Girls club
Computers	Computers	Basketball
Sewing	Swim squads	Sewing

(2:15-3:05) pm
 G.3-G.5

Sunday, (2:15-3:05) pm	Monday, (2:15-3:05) pm	Wednesday (2:15-3:05) pm
Islamic studies	Basketball	Fabric painting
(3-4) pm	Basketball	
Basketball (G.10-G.12)	Swim squads	
Basketball (G.10-G.12)	On stage everyone	

G6-G12