

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, February 25th 2016



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
WINNING SOCCER TEAMS
1ST AND 2ND PLACES!**



Superintendent's Parent Information Seminar -
"STUDY SKILLS: A Key To Success That PARENTS Can Help Turn"
David Lauchmen presenter
Thursday, March 17, 8:30-9:15 AM, KAS Library

Dear Parents,

This past Saturday, 41 KAS stakeholders met to receive action plan reports from the KAS Strategic Planning and Continuous Improvement Teams (SPACIT). The 41 individuals represented the following: School Board Members, faculty, support staff, the PTA, administrators, parents, and students. Over the past year, many individuals on SPACIT committees researched and brainstormed strategic planning goals that are being considered for implementation at KAS during the next four years. The goals were developed last year at a KAS stakeholders' retreat. I congratulate everyone on the success of reaching this important milestone in the Strategic Planning Process. Congratulations to Dr. Ann Beck who coordinated the efforts of the committees during the past 3 semesters. Well done everyone. Thank you!

At the end of the meeting, I said the following to the group:

"Strategic Planning is not an easy task. It requires patience, cooperation, and collaboration. It requires the ability to suspend judgment while empathizing with other committee members as they present their ideas. It requires a willingness to take risks in sharing your thoughts and ideas and, a willingness to give generously of your valuable time and energy. You have done all of the above and you have done it with commitment and dedication to improving KAS. Thank you all on behalf of the School Board, and on behalf of the current and future members of the KAS Family."

Top quality international schools conduct Strategic Planning exercises on a periodic basis. The next steps in the Strategic Planning Process involve a School Board review of the action plans recommended by the SPACIT. When the final action plans are selected they will be reported to the community and to all stakeholders. Through Strategic Planning, KAS is embarking on an exciting period of educational growth and development!

I wish you a pleasant weekend.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rob Beck
Superintendent

FROM THE MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

To prepare students for the increasingly high-tech world we live in, teachers at KAS start using technology in the classroom with students at a young age. In order for students to be proficient in using laptops by Grade 3, the lower elementary classes have started teaching Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Skills which are in alignment with the standards published by the International Society for Technology in Education. These skills are aligned by grade level so that by the time these students reach high school, they will be able to succeed at the high level of technology proficiency that their teachers will expect.

In grades 1-2 we use iPads to enhance our literacy and mathematics instruction on a regular bases. In English Language Arts, students have personal accounts with applications such as Reading Eggs and Raz-Kids. These applications not only teach lessons in phonics and provide interactive leveled books for students to read, but also provide an auditory option to listen to books. In addition, there is a quiz at the end of each book to check for comprehension. These applications are great resources to help teach reading. If you need access to your child's account for use at home, please ask their teacher for this information.



This photo shows actual screenshots from inside Reading Eggs.

Kathleen Taylor
Grade 1 Teacher

Math & Riddle Master

This Week's Winner



Ryan Yajima
Grade 1

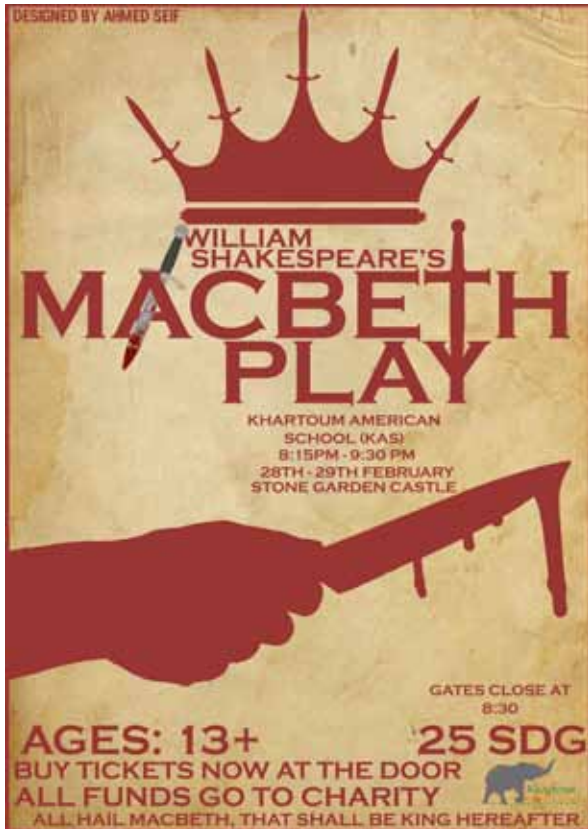
Ahmed Abualgasim
Grade 2

Dear Parents and Friends,

This year marks 400 years since the death of William Shakespeare. Throughout the world people are commemorating the death of the most famous writer in English Literature through performances, programs, exhibitions and other creative activities. To be part of these worldwide celebrations, Khartoum American School is staging a rendition of Shakespeare's Scottish Play, "Macbeth".

Students from Mr. Michael's Drama class and other high school students have been working very hard over the past month in preparation for performances on the 28th and 29th of February at 8.15 p.m. prompt. Come along and support our young Shakespearian actors! Entry is 25 SDG. You will be requested to pay at the door. All proceeds will go to a local charity. Please note that there is an age appropriate entry of 13+.

I hope that you will be able to attend and join us in celebrating the lasting legacy of the world's greatest playwright.



Susan Boutros
Middle & High School Principal

NEWS FROM THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Khartoum Cup Winners 2016!

What make a team the best? " A leader/coach is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way." - John C. Maxwell

The last two days were some of the best days of my life here in Khartoum. The last three years KAS was privileged to win the Junior Girls trophy 2014, the Junior Boys 2015, and this year the Senior Boys and the Junior Girls 2016.

The moment where everyone is either losing the nails on their fingers or coaches are turning grey every second. How many seconds left in the game? The period in a game where the clock seems to tick forever until finally you experience the greatest joy or the greatest heartache.

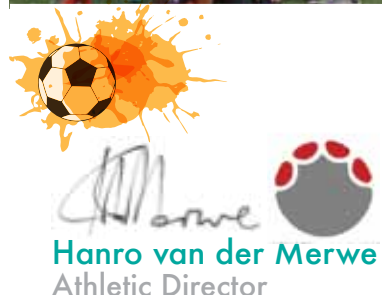
The moment a bunch of High School kids beat their rivals on the sports field in Khartoum. For the boys it was KICS and for the girls it was NVS.

The jubilation on Sunday under a full moon was exhilarating. The boys and girls experienced a state of euphoria that is so common in sports. It goes a long way to wellness and lifelong physical activity.

The Senior Boys team scored the winning goal through Omar Moustafa from an Abbas cross in extra time. They earned the right to call themselves Khartoum Champions for 2016.

The Junior Girls Monday had the daunting task of having to beat KICS in their final game of the day to clinch the title. They scored the winning goal through Lujane Abdulhaq in regulation time thus earning them the right to also be called Khartoum Champions for 2016.

I would like to thank our coaches for their commitment and active coaching during the season. Mamoun Ismail, Grade 10 student – timekeeper during the season. Hamza Kayani, Student Council president for his welcome speech to all the visiting schools at the Junior KISSC Football tournament. You are truly leaders in your right everyone! Congratulations on winning the Khartoum Cup Senior Boys - Dave and Khalid and Junior Girls - Sara and Katie. As a coach, it is the moment that you work so hard for and might I add, pray for.



Hanro van der Merwe
Athletic Director

Library News

"I have always imagined that Paradise will be a kind of library."
-Jorge Luis Borges

The library is one of the central support services of KAS. The objective of the Library is to provide information services. This includes full text digital and printed resources to support the informational needs of the user community. It serves the academic needs and research needs of students, faculty and parents. The Library is well equipped with modern facilities and resources in the form of CDs, kindles, etc. The collection of the library includes reference books pertaining to many disciplines. I recently attended a professional development conference in Oman. I left the conference feeling very proud of where we stand amongst international schools with our resources and how up-to-date our library is. As the librarian I'm privileged to work with both HS/MS and ES/ECC.




Students are also attracted to use our library because it is a place where they can enjoy activities such as chess and 'Junior Architects' as a part of the school's Exploratory Program.



Come along to the KAS Library and see the amazing inventions created by authors, artists, designers and future inventors!

Shireen Shiber
Librarian

SAYING OF THE WEEK

Shipshape And Bristol Fashion is used to say that everything is neat, tidy and in good order. In the days before Liverpool became a major English port, Bristol was the premier western port from which most ships would embark on transatlantic voyages. It was also a naval port and prided itself on its reputation for efficiency and neatly packed cargoes. The traditional high standards of ships leaving Bristol lead to the phrase passing into the English. 

Minette van der Bijl
High School/Middle School English Department