

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, April 7th 2016



Students win recognition in the Quarter 3 Awards Assembly



Don't miss our last Superintendent's Parent Information Seminar for the 2015-2016 school year on Thursday, April 14 from 8:30-9:15am in the Library.

Bring your friends from KAS and from outside of KAS. The title of the Seminar is

"The 21st Century Digital Native-

How Parents Can Help Their Child With The Proper Use of Technology"

The presentation will be by Mrs. Egbal Mohamed, our Information Technology Computer Studies Teacher.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Yesterday, Middle and High School students attended a 4 Cs Awards Assembly. I congratulate our students on their achievements. It is important to remind all KAS stakeholders of Our KAS Mission and Our KAS Vision.

Our KAS Mission: Khartoum American School provides an outstanding learning environment to promote an open, inclusive and student-centered program. We are devoted to fostering educational growth and development for our internationally-diverse student body.

Our KAS Vision: The Mission is supported through the KAS Vision of building the 4Cs of:
Character:

By helping students 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.

Curriculum:

Khartoum American School follows an American Curriculum based around internationally recognized standards. Our student-centered program offers a technology-rich and inquiry-based approach. Khartoum American School offers a program of study that allows all students to reach their potential.

Community:

Khartoum American School actively pursues a sense of community characterized by students who are cooperative, communicative, productive and responsible. Students are encouraged to view themselves and their school as integral parts of the global community. Our community is a partnership of stakeholders who are actively engaged in the school and collectively shape its direction and ethos.

Citizenship:

We promote global citizenship and the expectation of our students is to reflect upon their own world and the world around them and to develop the skills required to make positive changes worldwide. We encourage students to embrace the diversity present at Khartoum American School and to celebrate the fact that it makes us a richer school community.

We are proud that every day in our classrooms and in our activities we strive to give practical meaning to Our KAS Mission and Our KAS Vision.

I wish you a pleasant weekend with your family.

Sincerely,

Dr. Rob Beck
Superintendent

“Opera Mouse” Performance by opera singer and dramatist **Melanie Gall at KAS.**
Thank you
Melanie and Canadian Embassy



Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

At KAS we have so much to celebrate every quarter. The High School Drama Class performance, the Science Fair, and the soccer Kenya trip are just a few of our successes.

On Wednesday, April 6, we celebrated student achievement at our Quarter 3 Awards Assembly. Middle and High School students, parents and staff were here as we presented award certificates in the following categories, which align with the 4 C's of our Mission Statement:

Curriculum:

Golden Honor Roll: students received this award if they received all A's on their 3rd Quarter progress reports.

Blue Honor Roll: students received this award if they received all A's and B's on their 3rd Quarter progress reports.

Character/Citizenship/Community

Character Award: students received this award after being nominated by a teacher who feels the student has demonstrated good self-discipline, a positive self-image, and a strong sense of personal commitment and dedication to his/her own learning.

Citizenship Award: students received this award after being nominated by a teacher who feels the student has demonstrated the ability to reflect upon their own world and the world around them and is developing the skills required to make positive changes worldwide. Students who earn this award have shown the ability to embrace the diversity present at Khartoum American School and celebrate the fact that it makes us a richer school community.

Community Award: students received this award after being nominated by a teacher who feels the student has demonstrated he/she is a cooperative, communicative, productive, and responsible young adult who views themselves and our school as integral parts of the global community.

Congratulations to all the students who received an award!

I would like to take this opportunity, to wish all our students a very successful fourth quarter and end of the year.

Susan Boutros
Middle & High School Principal

KAS Kenya Soccer Tour 2016

This year the International School of Kenya again hosted the 7-a-side Football Tournament. The games were nonstop and intense on the one-day affair. The fact that KAS participated in this once a year tournament shows that sports and academics do not collide. The KASian Spirit is about taking action against the odds and displaying courage and resoluteness in the face of adversity. Deciding on a course of action and then sticking to that decision against repeated setbacks is KASian Spirit.

Along with this intense and character-building competition, our students had the opportunity to explore Nairobi while in Kenya. The students visited the Independence Park and Uhuru Park, which means freedom in Swahili. They also had a golden opportunity to visit the National Park where they saw impala, buffalo, zebra and Thompson's gazelles. They followed this up with a visit to the Giraffe Center where they fed the giraffes and some students were brave enough to be kissed by the giraffes.

A few quotes from the players:

I thought that Nairobi was awesome because it was fun playing football with different schools. Abdallah

I felt excited because it was my first football tournament with my dad watching. Janique

The food was amazing at Carnivores. Omar

This is a super way to finish your senior year. Ayman

Tours like these are valuable to the students' learning, as they not only gain independence they experience different cultures. The camaraderie that exists amongst tour members is priceless.

Thank you to Mr. Khalid, Mr. Dave, Ms. Katie and coach Sara for preparing and taking good care of the boys' and girls' teams.



Hanro van der Merwe

Athletic Director



Dear Mrs. Aschbrenner,

Someone once said to me, "No one really remembers much from 2nd grade."

For me, that is a ridiculous statement. That was my golden year in elementary school! I remember so much from 2nd grade. I remember writing a story about a macaw and illustrating it. I remember writing my own poetry and then reciting it to an audience at a local bookstore. I remember coloring in pie charts for how many books we read in each genre. We played math games with these cards that I can still picture. We made self portraits on squares of cloth that were then sewn into a quilt and was auctioned to the highest bidder at a school fundraiser. I remember you reading "Where the Red Fern Grows" out loud.

There were scented markers, full bookshelves, Number Munchers, hot/cold lunch charts, bring-your-pet-to-school days, a Thanksgiving play where my best friend Anne played the turkey and the rest of the class dressed up as grandmas and grandpas.

At the forefront of all these memories is gathering on the carpet with the other 2nd graders, you in the chair, strumming away on your guitar, and singing. I remember the songs: Macaroni and Cheese, Puff the Magic Dragon, Chicken Lips and Lizard Hips, Everything Grows...

In 2nd grade, you taught us what the word, "imagination" meant. I learned to love to read in 2nd grade. I developed a passion for writing. I learned to actually do things with numbers. I figured out that Europe was, in fact, a place, rather than what I previously conceived as some sort of breakfast condiment because all I could liken it to was sounding like "syrup." That was the year I learned to be proud of my work and myself. I honestly don't know quite how to convey the reality of how much of my personality today is reflected in what I experienced in 2nd grade.

When I became an elementary school teacher, it was for a variety of reasons, but the heart of my decision was...2nd grade. And when I took a 2nd grade teaching position, all I could think about was, "How can I make these kids' experience as magical as Mrs. Aschbrenner made mine?" I attempted to replicate many things from my year in your classroom with my own students. Regardless of the ebb and flow of new ways of instruction, educating, philosophies, assessing...some experiences are just universal.

I always wanted to find you and tell you these things. I tried to look for you on Facebook, Google, and a few other websites through the city of Colorado Springs, where I grew up. I was unsuccessful in my search...until this year.

While visiting the my parents in the U.S. for Christmas, I was shopping for school supplies in an Office Depot. I heard someone in the next aisle over talking with an employee. After over 20 years, I still recognized your voice. As if I had just encountered a celebrity, my heart started racing and I tried to concoct things that I could say that wouldn't make me sound lame or like a stalker. I put on my most casual, normal face and pretended to be interested in the same desk calendars that you were looking at. You remembered me! Right away you knew my name and remembered my younger brother, too. The Office Depot staff must have been slightly annoyed that we stood in the store for an hour catching up (I don't recall if either of us ended up actually buying anything).

I professed that one of my biggest regrets was not learning how to play the guitar. I always wanted to incorporate the memorable group singing sessions into my own classes. To my great delight, it so happened that you had a CD of 28 personally recorded songs used in your many years of teaching accompanied by a songbook with lyrics. Chants of, "Would you like some macaroni and cheese? Yes please!" can be now heard coming from my classroom in the afternoons.

I'm so lucky that I had the chance to thank you in person. But I also wanted to express my gratitude in writing. One of the most wonderful things in my educator career thus far has been to watch the joy that your song collection has brought to my students. The same joy that they brought to me when I was in 2nd grade.

Thank you, Mrs. Aschbrenner, for creating an experience that I absolutely do remember. Know that a little piece of you has traveled to Sudan...and will spread wherever else in the world I end up.

Most Sincerely,



Chelsea Meyer

Second Grade Teacher

(2nd Grade Class of 1993-1994)

SAYING OF THE WEEK

*To **Pay On The Nail** means to make a prompt cash payment for goods or services. Back in the bustling medieval market place, dealers were known by their round, pillar-like counters, called nails. It is thought the phrase referred to the practice of a buyer placing his cash openly and in full public view on the nail. This routine is recognized to this day by the four bronze nails that still stand outside the Exchanges in Bristol and Limerick. The expression is not unique to Britain, however; Holland and Germany have a similar saying.*

Minette van der Bijl

High School/Middle School English Department

Math & Riddle Masters

This Week's Winners



Murad Ali
Grade 1

Mohamed Mirghani
Grade 2