

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, September 8th 2016

Happy 'Eid al-Adha' Holiday!
School reopens Sunday, September 18



'Gift of Giving' Workers Food Drive a Success.
Thank you Students, Parents and Staff!

Superintendent's Parent Teacher Information Seminar - **'Positive Parenting'**
Presented by **Dr. Anna Beck** - Thursday, September 22, library, 8:30 AM

Superintendent's Message

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The number of nationalities represented at our school is one variable that is evidence of our claim to being an excellent international school. For the past several years there have been approximately 30 nationalities represented each year at KAS. This level of diversity creates an exciting learning environment for children. Research points to the positive effects on children's personality development of socializing with other children from different backgrounds and cultures. Children become more open-minded, more tolerant, more globally aware and more empathic. The following are the countries represented so far this year at KAS:

Sudan, Malaysia, Turkey, United Kingdom, Pakistan, Canada, USA, India, Egypt, Korea, Nigeria, Yemen, China, Netherlands, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia, France, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Myanmar, Tanzania, Bangladesh, Italy, Kuwait, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Spain and Tunisia.

Watching the children interact with other children from different countries helps us understand how easily they make friendships with others regardless of one's background or previous experiences. Our students are becoming world-citizens. When they graduate from KAS, or when they transfer to another school, we know they will start their next life experience wiser and more confident as a result of their KAS experience.

We know that you are pleased and excited, as are their teachers, at witnessing your child becoming a world citizen.

**Have a wonderful Eid Holiday Break!
See you Sunday, September 18.**

Sincerely,

Dr. Rob Beck
Superintendent

Pre-School 2016-2017 "Lions in Action"

The first days of this school year saw half of the class happily reconnecting with their old friends, while mentoring the new students about routines and the KAS environment. Together we decided that the lion is the animal that best represents this group of young learners. Every day is an adventure in Pre-School! We have been touring the school grounds: we visited the tortoises and stopped at the kiosk for popcorn. We also watched a basketball game sitting on the new bleachers like real spectators, and cheering at the teams. We have tons of fun on Thursdays, when we go to the Mickey Mouse pool and happily splash in the water. Some children are already experimenting with some basic swimming skills, such as putting their heads underwater. Inside the classroom we have been exploring numbers 1 to 5, the four primary colors (red/blue/green/yellow), circles, and the letter A. As the days go by, the children feel more and more comfortable, and come to class with a smile. Our school days are always filled with learning adventures and fun discoveries. We're looking forward to the weeks to come!



Ms. Ivana Turchetto

Pre-School Teacher/Early Childhood Coordinator

Math & Riddle Masters This Week's Winners



Ismail Kayani
Grade 5

Aina Shepens Bernabeu
Grade 1

Daniel Matta
Grade 3

Letter from the Early Childhood & Elementary Principal

Dear Parents and Community Members,

It's amazing how quickly we move from the expansive freedom of our summer holiday, which lasts for several weeks, into the focused rhythm of our school year, which lasts 38 weeks, and where each school day is so structured and requires so much of the child, and where such learning and inner growth take place. Each weekend brings much needed rest and "down time," but each seems to end far too quickly. Each week-long break from school, such as our Eid al-Adha holiday which begins after school today, offers an essential respite from the intensity of focus, but these too seem to fly by. Yet as short as our weekends and week-long breaks seem to be, they offer a crucial balance to the positive stress of focused attention and learning.

It is only when we achieve real balance in our lives that health and well-being can be found. If the strings of the harp are too loose, i.e., if we are too relaxed and unfocused, or are too tight, i.e., if we are too wound up and too focused, then the song that comes from the harp will not be as beautiful, melodious, and harmonious as it could be. The harp must be finely tuned, and we must have balance in our lives. Along with order we sometimes need disorder, the release from structure, and, as Wendell Berry writes in his classic book, "The Unsettling of America: Culture & Agriculture," "wildness":

"An enduring agriculture must never cease to consider and respect and preserve wildness. The farm can exist only within the wilderness of mystery and natural force. And if the farm is to last and remain in health, the wilderness must survive within the farm. That is what agricultural fertility is: the survival of natural process in the human order. To learn to preserve the fertility of the farm, Sir Albert Howard wrote, we must study the forest."

I wish all KAS students, families and staff members a true balance during our week off starting this afternoon, a real release from structure, some much-needed down time, and much fun and joy in family gatherings and the times with ourselves we are able to create.

Phil Centers

Early Childhood & Elementary Principal

Another One 'Open Mic'!

Last night the high school students decided to show off their talents by hosting an open mic night/ talent show. To keep the tradition going, the seniors and juniors with the help of Miss Minette kicked off the year with the first show. The show had talent of free style raps performed by our own Vlad aka Kasperelli and our former Elfatih aka Keys. Two new features to the stage were Hamada G. 11 and Talha G. 11 to the mic. The show continued with some guitar playing by Hamza G. 12 and some live comedy by Genyry. Overall it was a success with guests from out of school to enjoy a fine evening with outstanding entertainment.



Gift of Giving



All of the food and monetary donations from the KAS community allowed us to give each worker this selection of goods for Eid.



SAYING OF THE WEEK

Jumping The Shark is a phrase used to describe good television shows that have run out of steam and become average at best. This has been the case with many classic comedies, which run for one series too many and standards and ratings start to fall. One of the great TV shows of the 1970s was *Happy Days*, featuring The Fonz, the Cunningham family and their friends. All of America and Britain seemed captivated by the show until the writing became tired, and during the last series viewers started to switch off. The final straw seems to have been a scene in which The Fonz (Henry Winkler) was waterskiing in his leather jacket and motorcycle boots and literally jumped over a shark. For many critics enough was enough and that scene marked the end for the show, though not of its well-earned cult status.

Minette van der Bijl

High School English Department



ANNOUNCEMENTS

School Board Positions

Currently there are open positions on the KAS School Board. If you are interested in serving as a board member, please submit your CV to Mrs. Mona Hassan (mhassan@krtams.org) by Thursday September 21st.

Eid Pool Hours

KAS Pool is open from 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM
Except closed Sunday September 11 and 12