



# n e w s

news from the trunk

Thursday, December 7, 2017



## Its Annual Fundraising Event INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK

# DINNER

Cultural Dances & Live Band by

*Salute Yal Bannot*

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## INTERNATIONAL POTLUCK

# DINNER

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# SPIRIT WEEK AT KAS

The High School Student Council would like to say a big 'Thank you' to everyone for showing such great spirit this week! It was such a fun way to lead up to the International Potluck Dinner and a great way to relax before high school study week and exams begin.



Student Council offered a pizza party to the class with the highest number of participants in Elementary, Middle School and High School. The results are in and the winners are:

- Elementary: Grade 3!**
- Middle School: Grade 8!**
- High School: Grade 9!**

Well done and enjoy your pizza parties next week!

## Superintendent's Message

**From the KAS Board of Directors** – Recently our Board and school administrators participated in a very informative training session with Dr. Gail Schoppert. We left the training with a good understanding of our roles and responsibilities along with some advice on how to improve Board operation. During the past two weeks Board Committees have been meeting to further work on necessary improvements to our school.

The Policy Committee has met to begin a comprehensive review of Board Policy. At our meeting we established terms of reference. This design will be used by all committees. When the Board approves policy changes they will be communicated in E News then incorporated into the Policy Manual and listed on the KAS website.

The Facility Committee met to review the process we need to use for bidding by companies to build projects. Currently we have 3 bids to upgrade our IT system, which is greatly needed. To make sure we are hiring the right contractor we have employed a reputable independent consulting company to advise us on selecting the right bid. We hope to start this project during the Winter Break.

Our Finance Committee met to review the status of our budget and I am happy to share that we are on target with the budget the Board approved for this year. We are also reviewing our Finance Procedures Manual to update it to meet current best practice of school finance management. We will also be hiring another accountant to work with our Senior Accountant. Jhun Quizon.

The newly created ad hoc Safeguarding Committee is meeting this week to begin its task of creating a Safeguarding Policy and Procedures manual. As policies are developed and approved we will also post them in E News.

Parent Seminar – Next Thursday, December 14th, after the morning elementary assembly Susan Boutros and I will give a presentation on KAS guiding statements. This will include explaining our Mission Statement, our Vision or the 4 C's and our newly created Global Citizenship definition. Please come and join us for this important session.

**Steve Alexander**  
KAS Superintendent

## Learning While Singing

In the learning of a language, knowing by heart a poem, the verses of a play or a song, makes it possible to fix, sometimes forever, certain grammatical forms, certain difficult tenses as well as new vocabulary.

Students, who make the effort of learning a song, or poetry in another language, will notice that they progress faster than others in this language.

At the moment, Middle & High school KAS students are learning a French funny song, it is all written in the past tense: "Si tu as été à Tahiti". It is a kind of rap ancestor. The words create their own beats. This will help students to fix, maybe forever, the grammatical form. This song will become a kind of memory and could be the starting point towards what it means to be a global citizen. In fact, Tahiti is a Polynesian French Island. Singing it, makes an American or a Korean student, closer to a French student. It is a good way of sharing a culture. This is also the way for a non-French student to approach a new kind of music. A song, like a poem, enhances the language, creates new images and feelings, which helps a lot in a new language. The use of songs, poems or theatre, makes the class more dynamic and enjoyable which is suitable for kids.

**Florence de Monza**  
French Teacher



## Do It Yourself- Exploratory

By: Sara Abugarga  
Student Support Services

Students who physically experience scientific concepts understand them more deeply and score better on science tests, according to a new University of Chicago-led study.



This was part of the motivation behind this extremely popular, 'Do It Yourself- Introduction to Electricity' Exploratory, which has been offered to the Middle School students at KAS for the past two years. Some of the students used tools such as screwdrivers, pliers and glue guns for the first time ever, so not only was the activity fun and educational for the students, but it simultaneously strengthened their fine motor skills in the process.



The quarter started with the students researching online, to find the lamps they wanted to make and upon approval, they had to write down the list of supplies they required, in some instances a drawing with dimensions was expected.



This exploratory taught students: Planning, Organization, Development, Revision & Research of their projects, as well as Mathematical Skills, which are coincidentally, the measures of the MAP tests that students at KAS take twice a year. So, the students were actually learning while having fun. The students learnt the basics of electric wiring and how to handle electricity in a safe and responsible manner. The lamps the students completed at the end of each quarter were fully functional and showcased their creative abilities and technical skills.



## ANNOUNCEMENT

### KAS POOL

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The KAS POOL  
will be closed  
today for our  
International  
Potluck Dinner

### Saying of the Week

To **Take Umbrage** means to take offense at somebody's remarks or behavior. The word 'umbrage' has its roots in the Latin word 'umbra' meaning shade (which is also where the word 'umbrella' comes from). In England, 'umbra' was used to describe the shade or shadow cast by a line of trees and came to mean the shadow or shade a person is put under by suspicion or doubt. To be put in such a shadow will give rise to resentment and ill feeling, hence "taking umbrage".

**Minette van der Bijl**

High School English Department