



KHARTOUM AMERICAN SCHOOL TENTH MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE "KASMUN X"

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Superintendent's Message

KAS Plan for School Attendance – We want to operate school with normal hours and attendance as much as possible. While we believe virtual learning can be useful for our students, nothing is better than face-to-face learning between teachers and students. Each morning we review the situation in Khartoum and determine how we should operate that day. The safety of everyone is the first priority. If we change the dismissal time we will immediately notify our community through Classe by email and phone text. If you change your email address or mobile phone number please notify our admin office right away. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Model United Nations – Last night was the opening ceremony for the KAS 10th annual MUN. Our MUN leader spoke very well about the topics that will be discussed by different groups during the conference. Mr. Cesar Viller from UNICEF spoke to us about the important work UNICEF carries out in Sudan and around the world. Model United Nations is a very important program for students to participate in and I want to give special thanks to Mr. Owen McMullen and Ms. Minette van der Bijl for the many hours they spend preparing our students for MUN conferences.

Reminder – March 7th – Next Thursday, March 7th, is a planned early dismissal at 12 noon for all students. Our teaching staff will be working on the KAS strategic plan SPACIT and will be learning about the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program.

Steve Alexander
KAS Superintendent

Virtual Learning at KAS

At KAS we have been working on preparing our students to be life-long learners. Nowadays, there are many skills needed for the future. One of these skills is to be an independent learner. With the situation we have in the city of Khartoum, we have had to go virtual on two occasions. On those two virtual days, the students worked with their teachers through our Virtual Learning system Classe365. The first day was our trial version for online schooling. We evaluated it by sending out three different surveys to all members of the school community (teachers, students, and parents). We used the results from the surveys to improve the learning process for the following virtual day.

Most of the feedback we received, especially from elementary parents and teachers, said that nothing will replace the valuable time when teachers and students interact face-to-face in classroom settings. As for middle and high school, those two days were opportunities to check on the skill of being independent learners.

Technology has made its way into every facet of education and has become an essential component of schools' settings. Furthermore, educational technology can help prevent lost instructional time in case of an emergency closure and it supplements the traditional educational system. Online courses have become more available for students of high schools and colleges. Teachers and parents need to work together to ensure that students are learning to be independent learners and practice in daily basis. As the technology coordinator at KAS, I'm proud that those two days were successful for our secondary students. We are aware that we still need to improve our virtual learning system to get better results. For elementary and early childhood, we will be using Classe365 for announcements and directions that should help parents at home work with their students.

On behalf of KAS, I would like to thank all parents who were helping out at home during those past virtual days and ensuring that learning is happening.

Egbal Mohamed
Technology Coordinator

A Message from the Early Childhood & Elementary Principal

Dear KAS Family,

Happy last day of February!

Can you believe that the second month of 2019 is already over?

Today I want to recognize the five participants from KAS who competed in the 6th annual Sudan National Spelling Bee this week at BES in Arkawet.

They are:

from grade three - Alaa Albair, from grade six - Annuska Mallik and Daniel Samaan, and from grade seven - Caspia Nadapdap and Akshay Kumar.

Each student battled against other students from their own grade level who came from across Khartoum and all of Sudan. Our performance was very admirable overall. Some were just one word from reaching the finals.

The overarching purpose of the Bee was to not only provide a venue for high stakes competition but also to establish the love of learning new words and their meanings. Each student studied hundreds of words to prepare for this event. Many of the words used in these spelling competitions are not everyday words so this is a very difficult task to prepare for.

I am certain that this year's contestants will try again next year and the year after that and in doing so continue to increase their vocabularies and their confidence levels proportionately. All this while having so much fun. Congratulations again!

In other news: our third quarter after-school program will end on March 6th. We will take a break and resume again on Sunday, March 31st. This will be the final quarter and our last ASAP for the year.

I'd like to thank everyone for coming in to meet with their child's teachers on Tuesday, or, maybe, before that. In our section we had nearly 100% participation. Communication between teacher and family is very important and your child loves the teamwork that is displayed when the home family and the school family work together for the benefit of the student.

As always, thank you for your continued support and dedication to our school and each of its students, employees and programs.

Take care,

Joe Kaminski
Early Childhood & Elementary Principal



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Khartoum American School
Presents:
CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY
WITH A TWIST

Directed by Mrs. Lanario
Featuring KAS Elementary students
Produced by KAS High School Music Class 2019
Wednesday
March 6, 2019
6:30 PM @ KAS
Designed by KAS Students

Saying of the Week

To **Read The Riot Act** is an expression used when an individual or group of people are given a severe rolicking about their bad behavior. The original Riot Act was passed by the British government in 1715 as an attempt to increase the powers of the civil authorities when a town was threatened by riotous behavior. The Act made it a serious crime for groups of 12 or more people not to disperse without an hour of it being read out to the mob. The Act read: 'Our Sovereign Lord the King chargeth and commandeth all persons being assembled immediately to disperse themselves, and peaceably to depart to their habitations or to their lawful business, upon the pains contained in the Act made in the first year of King George for preventing tumultuous and riotous assemblies. God save the King.' Those failing to disperse risked penal servitude for not less than three years or imprisonment with hard labor for up to two years. Actually reading it out took extraordinary courage and often, during serious disturbances, many didn't hear it anyway. After the infamous Peterloo Massacre near Manchester in 1819 many of the convicted demonstrators claimed not to have heard the Act being read and the same defense was put during trials for the 1743 Gin Riots, 1768 St George's Massacre and the 1780 Gordon Riots. The Act remained on the statute book until the 1970s, but little use had been made of it for over a century.

Minette van der Bijl
High School English Department

Mr. Arthur's Message about Dreams

Greetings KAS families. It is with great excitement that grade 4 reaches out and shares the delight of hosting an international visitor in their classroom. Mr. Arthur, from Brussels, Belgium, presented information to the fourth graders about having dreams for themselves beyond professional dreams. Mr. Arthur discussed his personal fun dream he has had since he was a young boy of seven growing up mostly in Rwanda.

After his visit, the fourth graders wrote him thank-you letters. Mr. Arthur was so touched by the community

of KAS students thanking him that he wrote each student a personal note in return.

The notes were very touching. All are worth publishing. However, seeing there is only space for one letter in the E-news, the fourth graders read each other's letters and chose Eleazer Udochi's letter and Mr. Arthur's response for publishing.

Enjoy reading the letter and the response.

Ann Crowley
Grade 4 Teacher

February 7, 2019

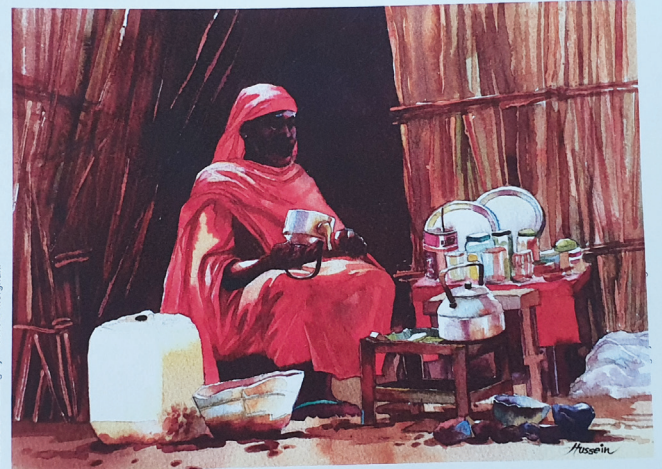
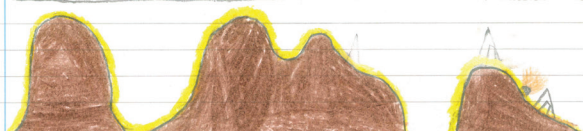
Dear Mr. Arthur,

Hello, I first wanted to say thank you for coming to our fourth grade class. It was a pleasure meeting you. I wanted to tell you what I learned from what you said.

First, you are from Belgium, from a city named Brussels. You have a disease called diabetes. You have a medication that keeps you safe from the diabetes called insulin. You got diabetes when you were 11 years old. Since you were a little boy you had a professional dream. When you were 7 years old you had a fun dream of riding a bike from Belgium all the way to Cape Town. You are accomplishing your fun dream. You meet many doctors on your fun journey. They tell you your trip is not possible but you persevere.

Finally, this trip will take you approximately a year. I hope you make your fun dream come true.

Respectfully,
Eleazer



Watercolor Painting by: Hussein Marghani

Khartoum, February 8th 2019

Dear Eleazar,

Thank you for your letter and the nice drawing of the mountains you sent me.

It seems you have a good memory, as you accurately remembered what I tried to explain when I came to your class.

This said, I have to correct on one thing, as doctors didn't tell me my project was impossible but rather that it would be difficult to organize. I think that the confusion comes from the fact that doctors told me I would be the first person with diabetes to do it.

The reason why other diabetes patients didn't cycle through Africa, is probably because of how difficult it is to keep insulin at the right temperature while cycling. Hopefully I will be able that respect of my journey!

I wish you all the best,

Arthur

www.bikewithdiabetes.com