

news

news from the trunk
Thursday, March 14, 2019



PLEASE NOTE: KAS closes for the 'Spring Break' on Thursday March 14, 2:50pm. School reopens on Sunday March 24.



The 8th Grade Ecology Trip to Uganda

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Superintendent's Message

KAS Annual General Meeting Notification

The Khartoum American School will hold its Annual General Meeting on Sunday April 21st, starting promptly at 7:00 PM in the quad area at the school. It is important that as many parents as possible attend this meeting. At this meeting parents will elect four members to each serve two-year terms on the School Board. Each parent is allowed one vote. There are no proxy votes for this election. To vote, parents must have paid all school fees for this school year.

Any parent wishing to run for election to be on the School Board must have at least one child enrolled in the school at the time of this election and must have paid all fees for the school year when declaring candidacy.

Candidate Criteria for Parents Who Want to Serve on the KAS School Board

1. Candidates should request from the Superintendent a declaration form that needs to be signed and delivered to the Superintendent no later than 4:00 PM on Sunday, April 7th.
2. Attach an up-to-date Curriculum Vitae (cv)
3. One paragraph stating why you want to be on the Board
4. Must be in good financial standing – all fees paid by April 7th

All documents should be sent to the Superintendent. Bring them to the Superintendent's office or submit by email to:

salexander@krtams.org

Steve Alexander
KAS Superintendent

The 8th Grade Ecology Trip to Uganda



Last week the 8th grade students travelled to Uganda for their ecology and service learning trip, an event they had been planning and fundraising for since the beginning of the academic year. On this trip, the students spent seven days travelling around Uganda and experiencing its beautiful nature, astounding wildlife, and unique cultures.

In Entebbe, we visited the Botanical Gardens and, after some Tarzan-style swinging, learned about the different plant and wildlife that call the gardens home. After this, we visited Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary. In the following days, the students continued to learn about wildlife at Mbuo National Park as well as about the science of the equator.

The highlight of the trip was Bwindi. The students visited a local orphanage to see some cultural dances, but the most rewarding aspect was the work they accomplished at the Batwa Empowerment Camp. Here they put their fundraised money to good use, building a new hut that will house two families. They worked hand-in-hand with the Batwa people and weren't afraid to get a little, or a lot, dirty.

The students got closer not only to the people of Uganda, but also to one another. This has been an amazing trip for all.

Chelsea Utecht
EAL/Learning Support Teacher

A Message from the Early Childhood & Elementary Principal

Dear KAS Family,

Happy Thursday, my friends. Today I am wishing everyone a safe and joyful Spring Break. Our break begins when school ends this afternoon, and continues till we come back on Sunday, March 24th.

When we do return, all of us will be restarting our engines again, looking forward to the final ten weeks. This school year has gone by so fast and we all have learned so much thus far. In addition to our formal daily curriculum, every staff member teaches the students about the importance of community, citizenship and character. As I mentioned in our first ENews of the year, empathy and compassion are a few of these crucial qualities that all of us must have. We will continue to emphasize these at KAS.

There will be no ASAP the first week we are back from Spring Break, the week of the 24th. There will be, though, the finalization of the ASAP sign-up procedures happening during that week. Please make sure your child has registered for a club during that time.

Third quarter progress reports are being prepared now, at the elementary level. They will eventually go out on the third of April. After April 3rd please let us know if you cannot access your child's progress report and we will make it available to you as quickly as we are able to.

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

The participants in the 2019 Sudan Spelling Bee. From left clockwise: Akshay Kumar, Caspia Nadapdap, Alaa Albair, Annuska Mallik and Daniel Samaan.



Group Work



Group work in the classroom is an effective method to encourage active learning and develop critical thinking skills. Research shows that group work can have a positive impact on learning outcomes.

Through group work, students are encouraged to become active learners by developing different skills. As they work in groups, students become involved in their own learning. Group work promotes student learning achievement because the students have the opportunity to learn from each other, which also enhances their social interaction skills.

Last month students from grades 7 and 8 were asked to work on different projects in groups. The grade 7 project was based on the play "A Midsummer Night's Dream", and the grade 8 project was based on the book "Mud City". The students were very engaged and came out with interesting ideas that surpassed my expectations. Their presentations were very well done!

Although it could be challenging for the students to work in groups, the benefits and outcome are worth the effort.



Sally Bektor
MS Language Arts Teacher

COMING SOON



Saying of the Week

To have **Egg On Your Face** implies a decision or choice has been made which later turns out to be a mistake, leaving a person looking foolish. Some suggest this is a relatively recent phrase and originates in America during the election campaigns of the 1960s and 1970s. At the time it was common for opponents of a candidate to throw eggs at them in order to make them look foolish. There is, however, strong evidence to suggest the Victorian theaters hold the real origin. At the time, during the slapstick comedies of the era, the fall guy would usually have eggs broken on his forehead to make him look foolish, not unlike taking a custard pie in the face.

Minette van der Bij
High School English Department