



news

news from the trunk

Thursday, February 6, 2014



SUDAN! OUR HOST COUNTRY

Global Issues Conference in Ghana

From Thursday, February 13 to Saturday, February 15, 2014



Letter from the Superintendent Mr. Steven Alexander

Welcome Dr. Robert Beck and Anna Beck
The KAS School Board has selected Dr. Robert Beck to be the Superintendent of KAS starting in August, 2014. Dr. Beck will be accompanied by his wife Anna who will take up a new position at KAS.

Dr. Beck is presently working as the Director of the American School of Asuncion in Paraguay, South America. Prior to this he was the Director of the American International School of Johannesburg in South Africa. Dr. Beck is an American citizen. He has also worked in India, Hong Kong and the United States.

His credentials include:

- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from the State University of New York in Buffalo
- Master of Education from the State University of New York in Buffalo
- Doctor of Education from Columbia Teacher's College in New York City
- Master of Education in Human Development and Guidance from Columbia Teacher's College in New York City
- C.A.S (Post Doctoral) in Consulting and Counseling Psychology from Harvard University – Boston

Anna Beck will work as the Enrollment and Testing Coordinator at KAS. She will also serve as Curriculum Coordinator. She is presently working as the Middle School Principal at the American School of Asuncion in Paraguay. Prior to this she worked as the Middle School Counselor and as a Social Studies Teacher at the American International School of Johannesburg, South Africa. Anna is a U.S. citizen. She has also worked in India and Hong Kong, and the United States.

Her credentials include:

- Bachelor of Arts in History from Southern Illinois University
- Master of Arts and a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling from Columbia Teacher's College in New York City
- Ph.d in Education and Administration from the American University in Washington, D.C.
- C.A.S (Post Doctoral) in Education Administration, Planning and Social Policy from Harvard University – Boston

Letter from Dr. Robert Beck

Dear KAS Community and Staff,

It was with great excitement and appreciation that my wife Ann and I received the news that I have been selected to be the Superintendent of KAS beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. When we visited KAS to meet the School Board, teachers, parents, students and support staff we felt immediately comfortable and 'at home'. We were most impressed with the gracious and caring manner in which you welcomed us during our visit. We were most impressed with KAS. Thank you.

Currently I am the superintendent of the American School of Asuncion, Paraguay. I have also held leadership positions at the American International School of Johannesburg, the Hong Kong International School, the American Embassy School of New Delhi, India, and, I was an administrator for the Fairfax County Public Schools in Virginia, USA. I received my university training as a child psychologist, teacher and school superintendent.

Ann has been an elementary and social studies teacher, school counselor and school administrator in the above school systems. She received her university training as a teacher, counselor and administrator. As professional educators and life-long learners, we have dedicated ourselves to doing what is best for children and for schools. Our son Matthew and daughter Lauren are international school counselors.

To work as a leader and team member alongside of teachers, Board members, and support staff to do what is best for children's intellectual, social, emotional and physical development is a privilege. I believe strongly that collaboration and cooperation are key elements in moving every child, and the school, to the next level of excellence. I take a "we" rather than "me" approach in serving others. Over the next several months I will work closely with Superintendent Steve Alexander and his staff to assure for a seamless transition and to assure that initiatives underway at KAS continue. In advance I thank Mr. Alexander, the staff and the Board for your support during this transition.

Ann and I look forward to seeing you this August. And we look forward to working closely with you on behalf of the KAS students in the years to come. With my best wishes for a great second semester!
Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Beck

Student Normal School Day:

- **Saturday, February 08, 2014**

ART DEPARTMENT



"There are painters who transform the sun into a yellow spot, but there are others who, thanks to their art and intelligence, transform a yellow spot into the sun." Pablo Picasso. Art students at KAS made me proud by transforming my white plain paper to masterpieces. It is a pleasure to see them develop their talent and blossom. Students at KAS are always learning about other cultures and are continuously trying to explore and learn more about their host country, Sudan, and Africa.

Sudan Days is the best opportunity for them to exhibit the artwork that they have produced throughout the first semester. Please visit the art room and have a look at our talented painters' artwork.

Maie Hassan Art Teacher

English Sayings...

If we Burn Our Bridges, we are putting ourselves in a position from which there is no return, often to our great cost. This phrase can be traced back to the Roman Army, whose generals adopted the practice of burning the bridges their soldiers crossed on their way into battle, removing any thought of retreat from their minds. They also used to Burn Their Boats after sea invasions, once again eliminating any idea of withdrawal.

Minette van der Bijl

Music Department Celebrates Sudan Days

This week, the Kindergarten Class talked about the camel. This is in collaboration with a unit they are doing with their teacher Ms. Erika Cousens. We discussed their habitats and the Third grade class made interesting illustrations of where camels live. Grade 5 students helped also with the illustration of this art project. As a collaborative effort from different classes this was a great success. Elementary students learned to sing the Sudan National Anthem and we talked about African rhythms in general.

Grade 2 participated in an activity on rhythms and demonstrated their understanding of regular and irregular beats. This week was an exciting one because of the variety of activities that the students experienced in celebration of Sudan Days. **Didith Lanario** Music Teacher

Adventures in the Desert



This past weekend, 30+ faculty members and workers from KAS embarked on a camping adventure in the desert. On Saturday morning, 2 buses left KAS, heading northeast to the Pyramids of Meroe! Upon arrival we set up camp, visited the pyramids, played some football, and enjoyed the sunset over the pyramids! We later feasted on some BBQ chicken, while sitting around the campfire. We shared stories and jokes, sang songs and enjoyed some laughs. We woke up to a spectacular sunrise, played some football with the local children, rode some camels, and slid down the sand dunes. This desert adventure was an opportunity for the faculty members and workers to form long lasting friendships and build a stronger sense of community amongst the amazing staff here at KAS. I would like to give special thanks to Lerma, Merghani, AbdelRasoul, Abubaker, and AbdelKarim for making this trip possible. I look forward to future trips like this, in which more faculty members and workers are able to mingle and enjoy the great sense of community we have here at KAS!

Ms. Erika Cousens / Kindergarten Teacher



Photos by: Mr. Joel / Ms. Erika / Mr. Mahmoud



Mr. C's Amazing Math Contest

Elementary School Math problems:

Kindergarten

Q. How many cents in a penny?

Grade 1

Q. $3 + 20 = _$

How many long and how many cubes?

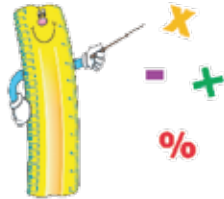
Grade 2

Q. $23 + 34 = ?$

Grade 3

Q. Add the parenthesis in to make this number sentence true.

$56 - 7 * 5 = 245$



Grade 4

Q. Estimate and solve.

$673 + 314 + 249 = ?$

Grade 5

Q. Take a survey on students' of grade 5 "Favorite Foods" and create a data table. Then, construct a bar graph of this data labeling all parts of the graph.

Middle School Math problems:

Why is the longest human nose on record 11 Inches?



This week's winners : Mohamed Bilal (KG) - Muli G1
Shams (G2) - Neeka (G 4) - Mustafa G 5 - Heidi Pre-k
Kishan G3

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: Answers will vary; Grade 1: 5
Grade 2: 50 Grade 3: Answers will vary Grade 4: 1,2,5,10,25 / 2,5
Grade 5: 12

Middle School: winners were Nita (grade 6) and Talha (grade 8).

KAS SPORTS

Senior Girls take the Spoils!

Once again we hosted Unity, KICS and Nile Valley School and the tournament went reasonably well for us.

The senior girls played superb football and their team spirits were top notch. Noon Nefeidi and her team were truly exceptional on the day.

Our KAS gr.7-8 girls had a tough day as they were saddened by the news of one of their team members,losing her grandfather. Our Gr.5 -6 boys played their hearts out and they really enjoyed playing against fair competition this time around.

Important dates:

Host	Date
Unity @KICS	February 6 (Boys)
Unity @ KICS	February 12 (Girls)



Important notice:

If you are interested in coaching junior football on a Saturday, please let me know a.s.a.p.

Enjoy your weekend. *Hanro van der Merwe*
Athletic Director

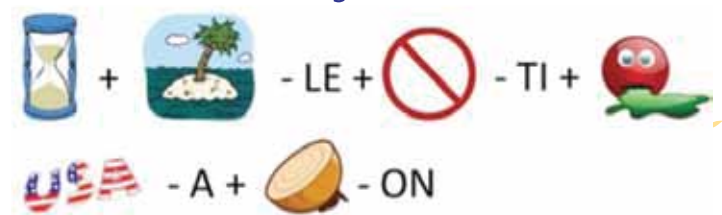
ROSS'S REBUS



Elementary School Rebus:



Middle and High School Rebus:



Who won Ross's Rebus last week?
Nita (grade 6) Hamadelnil (grade 5)

Last week's answers were:
Elem = Raining cats and dogs
MsHs = I just can't wait to be king