



news

news from the trunk

Thursday, February 20, 2014



WINNERS
Khartoum Cup 2014

**Make Up Day has Changed from
March 1, to April 5, 2014**



Letter of Introduction of Phil Centers and Juliane Rothan Centers to the KAS Community

Dear Khartoum American School Community,

It is a pleasure to introduce myself and my wife Juliane to you. We are excited to be joining the KAS community, I as the Elementary School Principal and Juliane as Middle and High School Science Teacher beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. We look forward to meeting all of you this summer.

Juliane and I both have deep roots in holistic education, and are committed to the well-being, healthy development, and success of children of all ages. We each began our teaching career in private Waldorf schools in the United States, and then progressed as educators through the U.S. public school system and most recently into the international school movement. We approach education as we do life – as researchers, and the journey of discovery as a fascinating adventure! This innate quality has been strengthened as a result of our training and experience over the years, which has been cross-disciplinary, diverse, and transformative. We love working with students, parents, colleagues, board members, and the wider community to make education come alive for each and every student, so that each may realize his or her full potential.

I have a Bachelor of Business Administration degree with high distinction from the University of Michigan and a Masters of Arts in Education (Educational Leadership) degree from Touro University California. I am in my final semester of the two-year post-graduate International School Leadership Program jointly sponsored by Washington State University and the University of San Francisco, which focuses on international school principalship, culture building, finance, law, HR, & data-based decision-making. I have sixteen years of teaching experience, kindergarten through community college, with most of this in the primary grades, as well as ten years of administrative experience, four as a principal (most recently as principal of the Rowad Al Khaleej International School in Dammam, Saudi Arabia). I am also a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps, where I worked in the computer field.

Juliane has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Oregon and a Masters of Arts in Education (Curriculum and Action-Based Research) degree from Touro University California. She has thirteen years of teaching experience, fourth grade through high school, with most of this in the middle school grades, and has also been a high school guidance counselor. She is currently teaching at the Shaikha Hessa Girls' School in Bahrain. Juliane has master in culinary and fiber arts, as well as in nutrition, and, like me, has great interest in a broad range of subjects.

We are very proud of our four grown children: our daughter Sara is involved in multiple aspects of the fashion industry in

Los Angeles; our daughter Aria, having recently completed her undergraduate degree, is aspiring towards an advanced degree in physical therapy and movement; our son Elric owns and operates a probiotics / raw food business on the U.S. West Coast; and our youngest daughter Chorel just graduated with honors in English from Mills College in Oakland, California.

What inspires me most in my work as principal is the opportunity for service I am presented across all aspects of the school's operations, particularly in support of the students and teachers. Research confirms what has long been understood in education: that excellent teaching, which includes compassionate relationships with students in addition to outstanding classroom management and instruction, is the single most important component of the success of students. I experience this fact directly every time I am in the classroom, whether simply as an observer, interacting with teachers and students, or presenting demonstration lessons myself. It will be my great privilege as KAS Elementary Principal to join with the Superintendent and all the school support staff to empower the preschool, kindergarten, and elementary teaching staff to achieve their highest professional goals in teaching and to accomplish the intentions that they aspire to with their students, as articulated and in conjunction with the KAS mission, curriculum, and instructional approaches and standards. I am a collaborative leader and enjoy working closely with my Superintendent, staff and students. I look forward with great enthusiasm to our fruitful work together in the years to come.

Sincerely,
Phil Centers (and Juliane Rothan-Centers)



English Sayings...



Eat Your Heart Out is a phrase we use in good humor to taunt another person. The suggestion is that they should be envious of and worried about another's achievement. The saying was a favorite Jewish expression in show business circles during the 20th century but was certainly in use much earlier. Diogenes Laertius credited Pythagoras with saying 'Do not eat your heart' meaning 'Don't waste your life worrying about something.' And that was 2,500 years ago.

The Counselor's Update

Ms. Katee Ross
KAS Counselor

Lately, the topic of career and college planning has been on the minds of many of our students. While our seniors are receiving their acceptance letters from universities around the world, our junior class is busy working hard on their College and Career Prep course. Additionally, many high school students are attending the Tuesday Lunch

Lessons, where I have been able to introduce topics that relate to major, career, and college exploration. Finally, this past week, our recent guest speaker from the US Consul educated our parents and students on how to apply for and obtain a US Student Visa.

In the upcoming weeks, I will be introducing more of this world of careers and colleges to our middle school and high school students. On Wednesday, March 26th from 6 – 7:30pm, KAS will host its first annual Career Fair. This event will take place in our covered basketball court during the evening of parent teacher conferences. Over a dozen professionals from a wide variety of careers will be present to answer questions about what it takes to succeed in their line of work. If you, or someone you know, would like to volunteer your time to share with our students what it is like to work in your field, please contact me as soon as possible. The more volunteers, the better! I hope you and your children can attend the Career Fair and will find it to be a valuable experience in learning more about the paths they might take after graduating KAS.

In addition to this event, I am collaborating with Education USA to organize KAS' first annual College Fair on Saturday, April 5th, where students can meet with alumni from many renowned universities and colleges. This means that we will NOT be making up school on March 1st, but instead will be expecting all students to attend school on April 5th. This is so that all of our middle school and high school students can attend the College Fair event, which will be held at the Grand Holiday Villa. As teachers and students, we will be taking buses together to the event on this day. Prior to the College Fair, students will be meeting with me for workshops and activities to prepare for meeting with alumni of universities from around the world. This is going to be an extraordinary event!

If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask. I look forward to seeing many of you

Khartoum Cup 2014

Last Thursday, February 13, the Khartoum Cup 2014 was held at KICS. With oranges during halftime the U/15 girls kept their calm, stayed in control, and outplayed their opponents to be crowned the Khartoum Cup Winners 2014.



The U/12 boys drew all their matches and lost to Unity 3-1. The senior girls, after an excellent season, did not experience a good day. Thank you to all the team coaches, Mr. J Charrington, Miss E Cousens and Mr. H van der Merwe, who worked hard preparing their teams this season.

WAYSIDE SCHOOL IS Falling Down Falling Down

"Ron ordered the Mushroom Surprise! Ron ordered the Mushroom Surprise!" chanted the children when "Ron" took the plunge and ordered Miss Mush's dreaded leftover cafeteria special. You'll never guess what happens next!

Students in second grade have been enjoying stories from the Wayside School series by children's author Louis Sachar. During a recent Thursday morning assembly, second graders presented two hilarious scenes from their favorite chapters of Wayside School is Falling Down. Elementary students got to witness Mrs. Jewls leading a very loud music lesson while Benjamin Nushmutter tries to finally tell his teacher his real name. Miss Mush is overcome with emotion when a child finally orders her special dish, and the children get to find out what the "surprise" really is. In case you haven't heard - Ron takes a bite and swallows slowly, his whole body starts to shake, and oh no! You'll just have to ask a second grade student or check out the book yourself to find out what happens next in the lunchroom.



Second grade students were star performers as they expertly portrayed the antics of the students and teachers at Wayside School. Now they can hardly wait for the next book in the series, Wayside School Gets a Little Stranger. We hope you'll "check it out" and follow the fun too!



IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO? GISS 2014

A group of high school KAS students attended the Global Issues Service Summit (GISS) in Accra, Ghana, February 13-15. The summit was held in collaboration with the Association of International Schools in Africa. (AISA). The purpose of the summit was to share, network and be inspired to integrate service learning into our curriculum, and engage young people to be "changemakers" who make a positive difference in the world. KAS students shared their experiences in implementing the "Campaign for a Greener Khartoum" service project, and we had a productive discussion with the audience members about similar challenges we all face in making our campus more green, as well as coming up with new ideas. In addition to learning about other student-led service projects, we also had a chance to listen to inspiring young leaders doing innovative projects. We had a wonderful time singing and dancing with amazing local performers and meeting people from all over Africa! It was a great learning experience for the students, and they came back with renewed enthusiasm, ideas and energy to carry forward the Campaign and work together with local communities in the future.



I AM THE DJ AND NOT A JUKEBOX.

PLEASE CHANGE THIS MUSIC!



Mr. C's Amazing Math Contest

Ross's Rebus

I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO SEE YOUR ANSWERS!

Elementary School Math problems:

- Kindergarten:** Put the set numbers in order from smallest to largest: 7, 11, 3, 5, 2, 8.
- Grade 1:** Jack has six cubes, Jeff has nine cubes, Jim has four cubes. Write the cubes that each boy has from smallest to largest.
- Grade 2:** Mr C. has eighteen bananas. Mrs A. has twenty-nine oranges. How many pieces of fruit do they have?
- Grade 3:** $1256 * 6 = ?$ Show work.
- Grade 4:** Max used 442 bottles of water to build a fountain. How many 6 packs is that?
- Grade 5:** At the pizza party, John ate $\frac{1}{4}$ of the pizza. How many slices did John eat if there were 12 slices in the pizza. Please show work.



Elementary School Rebus

Middle and High School Rebus

Solutions from the last week: Elementary Schol: Friendship; Middle and High School: Children of Khartoum;

Middle and High School Math problem:

Solve: $6 \div 3 \times 0 + 1 - 7 \div 7 \times 7 \times 0 = ?$

Collaboration between KAS and KICS



As a teacher I always feel proud of my students when they share their knowledge and experiences with each other. Collaboration is one of the 21st century

skills that students need to be equipped with. Teaching the students to have this skill is a little bit challenging sometimes, but it is not impossible. This week I had the chance to watch our middle school students being interviewed by Grade 6 students from KICS. The students from KICS are working to collect data for a major project related to technology integration. Examples of the questions given to our middle school students are listed below:

- How is technology affecting your learning?
- Does the school have up-to-date technology?
- What is the biggest problem preventing you from using your laptop efficiently?

I was really amazed with the way our students answered those questions. They were very knowledgeable about the whole process of using technology at our school. They are very well acquainted with the importance of following the rules and the guidelines that make a good digital citizen. The students shared their knowledge and were proud of the fact that they know exactly what it means to be a good digital citizen. It is really satisfying to see the outcome of the effort that we put into educating our students to adopt these valuable principles. This was a good example of the kinds of collaboration that we should be fostering in our school.

By creating more varieties of projects that will allow our students to be connected and collaborate with other international schools around Khartoum, we are building one of the essential skills that they need for their future.

By: Egbal Mohamed



This Week's Winners

Ragad (Pre-K), Taemin (KG), Mahmoud (G1), Ismail (G2), Su (G3), Yabsera (G4), Mustayab (G5), Sakuntala (G8).

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: 10, 5, 1; Grade 1: 37; Grade 2: 75; Grade 3: $29 + (5 \times 3) - 5 + (12 \times 3) = 75$; Grade 4: 250; Grade 5: $15 \times 36N$ and $32 \times 32 E$; Middle & High School: Half-Dollar;