

# NEWS FROM THE TRUNK

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26 2015



**KAS SOCCER TEAM**



**KAS**

CONGRATULATIONS PTA ON A GREAT PICNIC!





## Letter from the Superintendent, Dr. Robert Beck

Dear Parents,

### Thank you and congratulations PTA on a GREAT PICNIC !

This past week marked the end of our football season (soccer). I congratulate the many students who participated in the football season. I also want to congratulate our Athletic Director and coach, Hanro Van der Merwe (grade 4 and 5 boys); and, the following coaches: Shireen Shiber and Essam (grade 6 and 7 boys); David Lauchmen and Nick Urkow (grade 8 and 9 boys); Khalid Abdeltam and Fadel (grade 10 and 12 boys); Erika Cousens and Samhar Balla (grade 10 and 12 girls); and, Sarah Boyer and Jocelyn Urkow (grade 7 and 9 girls).

We are proud of our athletes and of our coaches. Over the 5 week football season, I watched as the students steadily developed their football skills. Their progress was obvious to their coaches and to me. The students are to be admired for their dedication to the sport. Under the direction of skilled coaches who were always there for them, they kept building their knowledge of the rules of the sport, and their skill set in soccer. It was an important 'out of the classroom' and 'on the field' learning experience. It was impressive to watch the lessons the athletes were learning about cooperation, collaboration, and in how to play as a team. Developing an appreciation of the meaning and importance of team work is an important life lesson. As a member of a sports team one not only has the satisfaction of learning how to play the sport, but also the satisfaction of the camaraderie and team work developed in interaction with one's teammates and in interaction with opponents.

Well done KAS students and coaches. Well done! We look forward to the next sports season, the volley ball season, that begins in April. We will be there to cheer you on! Good luck!

## Help KAS Achieve Its Strategic Goals!

The school community is invited to join a KAS Strategic Goals Action Team to help draft the strategy and work plan for implementing each of the the school's four strategic goals. The teams will meet starting in late March. At that time we will also discuss roles and expectations.

Strategic Goals Action Teams are needed for each of the following goals and priorities:

- School Uniqueness and Identity (including the school's Guiding Principles)
- Special Needs, English as a Second Language, and Gifted Students
- 21st Century Information Technology Planning Facilities Planning

The establishment of KAS Strategic Action Teams is a continuation of a Strategic Planning process that began at a weekend workshop done in the first semester facilitated by John Ritter, a strategic planning consultant. At the workshop teachers, parents, board members, students, support staff, and administrators identified the four above mentioned goals and priorities.

If you have an interest or expertise in any of the four goals and priorities, please join one of the KASA Strategic Goals Action Teams. You can do that by emailing [strategic.goals@krtams.org](mailto:strategic.goals@krtams.org). Thank you!

## Letter from the Middle/High School Principal, Susan Boutros

Dear Parents and Friends,

Yesterday, Wednesday February 25, our annual College Fair took place at the US Embassy. This event was a great opportunity for KAS students to meet with people who were representing Colleges and Universities mainly from the United States of America, Sudan and the United Kingdom.

The representatives shared information and answered questions about their institutions. It was an informational day with an open-fair setting. Students have shared that it was a very rewarding experience.

Below is a list of all the colleges that were represented at the College Fair:

University of Alberta
MacMurray College
University of Iowa
Triton Community College
Thompson River University
Boston University
City University
George Mason
Southern Illinois University
Univ Buffalo, State University of New York
Harvard University
University of Michigan
University of Oregon
Iowa State
Durham University
Texas A&M University
Shepard University, West Virginia
University of Southern California
University of Pennsylvania
Afhad University
Yale University
University of Innsbruck - Austria
University of Wisconsin - La Crosse
Khartoum University
Khartoum College of Medical Science
University of Medical Sciences and Technology
Northeastern Illinois University
University of Houston
Columbia University
Johns Hopkins
Temple University
Boston College
Middlebury College
Brown University
University of Washington
University of Chicago
Duke University

Have a great weekend!

## Letter from the Early Childhood Center & Elementary School Principal, Phil Centers

Dear Teachers, Parents, Students, and Community Members,

In this series of E-news articles exploring the why, what, and how we teach our students, you may have noticed that this set of questions does not include who, where, and when we teach. Such questions may seem nonsensical, yet they actually touch on profound aspects of education that we do well to address.

For example, the question of who we teach really touches on what we call “differentiation” or “differentiated instruction”, one of the most important skills we must have as educators, but one that is sometimes lacking from our teaching toolboxes and that must be learned and practiced. In our classrooms we always have a range of skills and capacities in our students that differ for every subject we teach. This range only increases the older the students are. So we simply must differentiate, i.e., teach differently to different groups of students, for instance, those with different learning modalities (addressed in an earlier E-news article), as well as those at different levels of readiness with regard to a given subject we are touching. The latter we might call our advanced learners in a given subject, our proficient learners, and our struggling learners. Meeting the needs of each of these groups of students in an effective way so that they succeed and thrive in school is very much about the who we teach.

We can differentiate our instruction on three levels, summed up simply as input, process, and output. For example, we may offer an option to our students of an “extra credit” project for those who need and long for more complexity to challenge them. We may work in a small group with students who want and need more one-on-one attention in order to “get” a certain concept or skill. Through all differentiated instruction it is important to note that we teach the same content to all our learners, otherwise we would be teaching two or more curricula to the same class, which would become counter productive. Through all such differentiation our goal is always to bring all of our students to at least a proficient, if not advanced, mastery of the curriculum content.

PS In my E-news article from last November 27, I spoke about the Newbery Readers Club. This year’s Newbery books were announced a couple of weeks ago. This year’s winning book, which is all about basketball and brothers and family, is “The Crossover” by Kwame Alexander, which also won the Coretta Scott King award honor medal, “given annually to outstanding African American authors and illustrators of books for children and young adults that demonstrate an appreciation of African American culture and universal human values. The award commemorates the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr...” Once I started reading “The Crossover” I wasn’t able to put it down, I found it so good, and finished it in an afternoon. I challenge all KAS students to read this book and join me as members of the Newbery Readers Club! Mr. Centers

## NEEDS & WANTS

Over the last couple months Kindergarten has been exploring the difference between needs and wants. We have discovered that a need is something essential for survival, whereas a want is something we can live without. Through a variety of different fun crafts and activities, Kindergarten has gained a better understanding of our different needs, (air, food, shelter and water), how readily available they are and how they differ from our wants. As much as they enjoy playing with toys, they have come to appreciate the privilege of having toys!!!



Erika Cousens  
Kindergarten Teacher

## Music Classes are learning songs for the Musical Production

In the beginning of February, the elementary students have started learning the repertoire of an upcoming musical production for the end of the year. The elementary musical this year is “ALADDIN’S LAMP” and the students will be singing six songs. Next week, the students will be given a schedule to audition for speaking parts and be a member of several choreographed dance numbers. I can see the excitement in the students and their willingness to participate in the musical.

The students have regular chorus classes and continue to study music following a curriculum. Kindergarten and First Grade are exploring the sounds of instruments and properly naming simple percussion instruments. Second graders are creating original compositions as they work in teams to discuss a theme and compose lyrics. They are enjoying this activity very much. The lyrics of an original song and make their own words. The Third graders had just finished a unit on intervals. They can identify a perfect unison, major second and a major third by listening to examples from the keyboard as well as looking at written drills of two note patterns. The Fourth graders resumed their recorder class and are playing pieces with harmony. As for the Fifth graders, they checked websites on how to play the guitar and name the parts of the guitar. They are able to understand how to play basic guitar chords and follow tablatures.

I am very proud to say that during the two music morning assembly performances by my students, they were able to demonstrate skills and understanding of identifying sounds and playing on percussion instruments. My Kindergarten class demonstrated this week how they can change the sound of the first letter of their names to any consonant or vowel. They came up with new names to call each other. This kind of learning is what makes my students enjoy coming to class more.

There is so much to look forward to. Information will be sent regarding the End of the Year Musical later in the year.



## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MATH PROBLEMS:

KG	ON A BAR GRAPH, SHOW THE FOLLOWING: 4 CARS, 6 TRUCKS, 1 TRAIN, 3 AIRPLANES
GRADE 1	DO THE FOLLOWING EQUATIONS THEN WRITE E IF THE ANSWER IS AN EVEN NUMBER AND O IF THE ANSWERS IS AN ODD NUMBER: $3 + 4 = ?$ $5 + 5 = ?$ $15 - 6 = ?$ $9 - 0 = ?$ $18 + 8 = ?$
GRADE 2	WHAT IS THE PERIMETER OF AN OCTAGON WHOSE SIDES ALL MEASURE 5 INCHES?

### KAS SOCCER

*I am a member of a team, and I rely on the team, I defer to it and sacrifice for it, because the team, not the individual, is the ultimate champion. Mia Hamm*

On Saturday, February 21, there I was standing on KICS sports field observing Mr. David Lauchmen and Mr. Nickolas Urkow encouraging the Gr.7-9 Boys team. They were up 2-0 against NVS, and the boys played their hearts out. I saw Mr. Khalid, and Coach Fadel with their Gr.10-12 they were asking them if they were going to lie down as they were 2-0 down against KICS. The Gr.3-5 KAS team had a battle royale against UHS to stay undefeated for the season. The players on the pavilion were encouraging the team and Max Brugma at the front to keep their record intact.

On Monday, February 23 the Gr. 7-9 team played excellent soccer. Their team spirit was high, and they showed unbelievable concentration even when they were only left with six players after Sumin had to leave to catch her ride home. The girls ended their season on a high note winning both their games.

If you are interested to know how the games ended in the opening paragraph please see the results table. It makes for interesting reading.

We were able to win some and we also lost some-but it was a rewarding season.

Thank you to all the coaches and all the hard work you have put in this season.

### WINNERS!

- KG: Leseley Ann
- G1: Daniel
- G2: Alan



KICS		Gr.4/5 Boys		
February 21	KAS	0	KICS	0
	KAS	4	UHS	3
				KISSC League
				KISSC League
				Gr. 6/7 Boys
	KAS		NVS	Forfeited the match!
	KAS	1	UHS	2
				KISSC League

KAS		Gr.7-9 Boys		
February 21	KAS	0	KICS	0
	KAS	4	UHS	3
				KISSC League
				KISSC League
				Gr. 10-12 Boys
	KAS	4	KICS A	2
	KAS	1	KICS B	2
				KISSC League
				KISSC League

KAS		Gr.7-9 Girls		
February 23	KAS	1	UHS	0
	KAS	2	NVS	1
				KISSC League
				KISSC League

**Hanro van der Merwe**  
Athletic Director

## English saying

**Blighty** is an affectionate old-fashioned term for Britain. This developed during the British Empire campaign in India and is taken from the Hindi word 'Bilayti', meaning foreigner. Empire soldiers used the term to refer to their homeland and the expression was in regular use by the time of the First World War by soldiers who talked of Britain.

**Minette van der Bijl**



### Elementary Rebus



### Faculty Rebus



### Middle & High Rebus



**Last week's WINNERS are!**

**Elem:**

**MSHs:**

**Faculty:**

**Last week's Answers are!**

**Elem:**

**MSHS:**

**Faculty:**