

NEWS FROM THE TRUNK THURSDAY, APRIL 30, 2015



KAS

Special Charity PTA Picnic. Don't miss the last picnic of the school year! Friday, May 8th 3:00pm

Letter from the Superintendent, Dr. Robert Beck

Dear Parents,

We often hear that schools strive to become 'child-centered'. I have spoken about this before. By child-centered what is implied is that the teachers, administrators and the school's governing body (the School Board) make it a priority that every child be provided with careful attention in their educational development. That includes their intellectual, social, emotional and physical development. A child-centered school's written curriculum, its athletic program, its extracurricular program, its special programs (such as student support services, ESL, counseling), and its overall mission reflect a belief that all children will profit and grow if the culture of the school is characterized by care for each individual. KAS gets very high marks for being a child-centered school.

It has become more and more clear to me, however, that KAS should be characterized as much more than a successful child-centered school. It is also a 'child-to-child'-centered school. It gets very high marks for this excellent and rare quality. By child-to-child centered I mean that students consistently take care of and respect each other. At KAS we have over 30 nationalities represented in our student population. There is a sense as one observes students as they interact in the classroom or in activities, that there is a true and deep level of caring for and about their classmates. I have had the good fortune for many years to have observed children communicating and interacting with each other from ages 2 to 18. KAS has one of the most child-to-child-centered caring environments that I have ever experienced in 4 decades as a school administrator, school psychologist, and teacher. Our students truly care about each other. They warmly receive and support newcomers, and they help each other regardless of their nationality or background. This child-to-child-centered and caring culture can be attributed to parents and staff who are models of what it means to be caring, loving and child-centered individuals. Importantly, a child-to-child-centered school is one that fosters a child's natural altruism, that inborn human instinct and desire to help others. KAS is a special school when it comes to fostering such natural altruism!

Our signature as a school is not only that we as a staff and parent community are child-centered. It is also our wonderful child-to-child-centered caring school culture. To be a student at KAS means one's fellow classmates care for and celebrate each other's uniqueness. It is understandable why our students love KAS!

School Opening and Closing Times starting August ---- 2015-2016 8:00am classes begin and ends 2:50pm (Gates open at 7:45)

Nursery and Early-Childhood (8:00am - 12:30pm)

Letter from the Early Childhood/ Elementary School Principal, Phil Centers

Dear Parents, Students, Teachers, and Community Members,

We have spoken and written quite a lot about "Curriculum" this year, as this is one of the "4 C's" that form the Vision of our school. Some community members have questioned why Curriculum is one of our 4 C's, since it appears to be inherently different than the other 3 C's of Character, Community, and Citizenship. We strive as educators and parents to instill the qualities of Character, Community, and Citizenship into our students, but we don't try to instill the quality of Curriculum into the students, do we?

Well, this depends on how we define Curriculum. If it is thought of as a system imposed upon our students from outside of them, then it's true that it would be very difficult to instill the idea of Curriculum into our students. However, if Curriculum is imagined as a living, dynamic process that intimately involves our students' input and co-creative activity with their teachers, administrators, parents, and the world at large (including the endless and seemingly unfathomable universe of knowledge and intelligence that surrounds us), then Curriculum takes its place in our Vision much like Community does. Community, after all, is something that exists outside of each of us, like Curriculum, but it is also something that cannot exist in a healthy way without our active participation in it, without our having within ourselves community-mindedness. So we also want our students to be curriculum-minded.

This vision of Curriculum as an inward quality of "curriculum-mindedness" is what we hope our students will hold with us. In doing so they will come to see that Curriculum ultimately means "Lifelong Learning." Curriculum means lifelong learning because we eventually come to see as adults that what we receive in school as children and young adults is only the starting point for a lifelong journey of discovery. It's not always an easy journey; in fact it can be quite arduous and most of us become weary at times on this adventure through our lives. But we have glimpses of the vistas that our lifelong learning opens up for us in the fields and meadows, groves and peaks of life, and this hopefully makes it all worthwhile.

Instilling this idea of Curriculum into our students as we do the other 3 C's means that our students come to understand that they are the masters of their own learning and thereby in the final analysis responsible for it. For all of our learning is a choice we have to make, to embrace or reject, each time the opportunity for learning is presented to us. Even when teachers design everything in a lesson, even if they were to design the perfect lesson, each student still has to choose whether she or he will participate or not, and to what degree. In becoming "curriculum-minded" we want our students to understand that they have access to all the resources they need to be successful in their quest for knowledge and skills, and ultimately for success in their lives. And finally, that in a larger sense what we are here to learn in the school of life transcends the details of the thousands of data elements and skills that we pick up along the way in the course of a lifetime. Imaging Curriculum in this way makes it clear why this is one of the 4 C's of the Vision of KAS.

Would you like to be a School Board member?!

The KAS Annual Association General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2015 at 6pm in the Library, followed immediately at 7pm by the school production of the musical play "Aladdin." The school is looking to recruit new board members; those selected by vote of the parents at the General Meeting are entrusted to serve a two-year term. Please consider serving the school in this unique way. If you are interested, please send an email to Dr. Rob Beck, KAS Superintendent, at rbeck@krtams.org, along with a short biography that can be distributed to the Association. The deadline for applications is the 7th of May, 2015. We look forward to seeing you on the evening of the 19th!

SPECIAL CHARITY PTA PICNIC THEMED (KAS TO MYGOMA ORPHANAGE). THERE WILL BE FUN GAMES, CHARITY AUCTION, AND DELICIOUS FOOD.

DON'T MISS THE LAST PICNIC OF THE SCHOOL YEAR!

FRIDAY, MAY 8th 3:00PM



English saying

Sour Grapes is a phrase used to describe someone who is sulking or jealous of not having something that others do have. It stems from a simple and popular fable of Aesop called 'The Fox And The Grapes', in which the fox spends a long time trying to reach a bunch of grapes high on the vine, but eventually fails. The fox then comforts himself by explaining he didn't really want them after all, as they looked sour.

Minette van der Bijl

KAS SPORTS

Camp Six Outdoor education

Outdoor education can be simply defined as experiential learning in, for, or about the outdoors. The KAS students of Grade Six had their camp here on campus on Thursday, April 23.



Some typical aims of outdoor education are to:

- Learn how to overcome adversity
- Enhance personal and social development
- Develop a deeper relationship with nature



Hanro van der Merwe
P.E Teacher

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MATH PROBLEMS:

KG	WRITE DOWN IN NUMERALS (NOT ENGLISH WORDS) THE NUMBERS YOU SAY WHEN YOU SKIP COUNT BY 10S FROM 0 TO 100.
GRADE 1	DRAW A LINE SEGMENT FOR THE FOLLOWING MEASUREMENTS: 1) 3 INCHES 2) 7 INCHES 3) 12 INCHES
GRADE 2	I HAVE \$1.47. WHAT PLACE VALUE IS THE 7 IN?

KAS Students at The Mozambique Global Issues Service Summit (GISS) Conference



Model United Nations Class (MUN) opens their Debates!



Winners are:
KG: Kibe
G1: Daniel
G2 Uthman

Ross's Rebus

Elementary Rebus: A can of soda, the letter 'D', the number '4', and a hand holding a pencil.

Middle & High Rebus: A blue board, the letter 'P', a speech bubble saying 'Amm!', and a cup of tea.

Faculty Rebus: The letter 'C', a purple alien with 'EEK!' on its chest, a grey mouse, a wizard, and the letter 'R'.

Last week's Answers are!
Elem: Camel Racing
MS/HS: Ewww, Ketchup Pizza
Faculty: Nuba Mountains

Last week's WINNERS are!
MS/HS: Melisa gr. 6
Faculty: Katee Jo