

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, November 29, 2017



NO SCHOOL ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Please note that tomorrow, Thursday, November 30, School will be closed for Almoulid Alnabawi. School resumes on Sunday, December 3.

KAS Annual Fundraising Event

INTERNATIONAL

P  **otluck**
DINNER

Thursday, December 7, 2017. Gates Open 7:00pm

Health is the greatest gift

from KAS with love

Cultural Dances & Live Band by

Salute Yal Bannot

Superintendent's Message

The Importance of Mother Tongue Language Instruction

Mother Tongue language is a person's first or strongest language. A great amount of research in recent years has shown that children having a strong mother tongue language foundation helps them with the skills they need to learn additional languages. Children learn grammar intuitively in their mother tongue language and this is easily passed on to other languages. Multi-language importance is increasing especially in an international school like KAS. This advantage is important in a globalized world and in many organizations it is a requirement.

Mother tongue language plays a large role in the development of persona, social and cultural identity. Children with a strong foundation in mother tongue language tend to display a deep understanding of themselves and their place within the society they live in. Mother tongue development also promotes other essential skills such as critical thinking and literacy skills. Mother tongue research also shows that a strong foundation leads to a better understanding of curriculum and a more positive attitude toward school.

Safe Haven Drill

On Tuesday this week students and staff practiced a "Safe Haven Drill." This safety drill is used when students and staff must be moved immediately to a safe haven area. The drill went smoothly and everyone cooperated well.

PTA Fair

Thank you to all PTA members and KAS staff who helped make our PTA Fair last Friday a fun family day.

Steve Alexander
KAS Superintendent

KAS Varsity Boys Basketball Season Review

While the KAS varsity boys did not achieve their main season goal of repeating as KISSC basketball champions, they did provide the KAS community with some great moments on the court. Led by captain MK and 4 year starter MI, KAS matched their overall record from last season (six wins, two losses), highlighted by their exciting victory against KICS at home, when MI hit a free throw at the end of regulation. In the tournament, KAS beat Unity 38-20, with Talha's one handed three pointer in the 2nd half providing momentum for the route. In the final, KAS led with ten minutes left in the game, but a combination of KICS' quality and depth, injuries to three of our starters, and fatigue meant that we were to come up short. MI and MK gave it their all, scoring 17 and 15 points respectively, as well as providing some SportsCenter quality blocks and three pointers in the process. Many thanks to all the players and fans for a great season!

Points Per Game (33.4 PPG) leaders (7 game)

1. MI 14 ppg
2. MK 7.7 ppg
3. Hamadelnil 4.6 ppg
4. Kareem 2.5 ppg
5. Samir 2 ppg
6. Hazim 1.3 ppg
7. Talha 1.14 ppg
8. Ibrahim 0.7 ppg
9. Akram 0.67ppg
10. Hamada 0.3ppg

Season Results:

KAS 33-31 Unity
KAS 47-23 NVS
KICS 35-22 KAS
KAS vs. NVS (forfeit by NVS)
KAS 23-22 KICS
KAS 39-29 Unity
KAS 38-20 Unity (semi finals)
KICS 44-32 KAS (Final)

A Message from the Middle & High School Principal

Dear Parents and Friends,

Last week many Americans all around the world celebrated a very special day – Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving is celebrated each year on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States. It is traditionally a day for families and friends to get together for a special meal. The meal often includes a turkey, stuffing, potatoes, cranberry sauce, gravy, pumpkin pie, and vegetables. Thanksgiving Day parades are held in some cities and towns on or around the holiday. This is one of the busiest periods for travel in the USA. Some people have a four-day weekend so it is a popular time for trips and to visit family and friends.

Many people trace the origins of the modern Thanksgiving Day to the harvest celebration that the Pilgrims held in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1621. However, their first true thanksgiving was in 1623, when they gave thanks for rain that ended a drought. These early thanksgivings took the form of a special church service, rather than a feast. In the second half of the 1600s, thanksgiving after the harvest became more common and started to become an annual event. George Washington, the first president of the United States, proclaimed the first national Thanksgiving Day in 1789.

Thanksgiving Day is a time for many people to give thanks for what they have. Here, at Khartoum American School, we have many things to be thankful for. We have a wonderful school with outstanding teachers and excellent facilities. We teach our students to be thankful and we emphasizing the importance of gratitude. We, as teachers, are thankful for being educators and we are thankful for the opportunity to be working with your children and for making a difference in their lives.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend, being thankful and spending time with family and looking hopefully to the future.

Susan Boutros
Middle & High School Principal

KAS students return from Indian MUN conference



From November 10th to November 12th, KAS students participated in the CHEMUN Conference at the American International School of Chennai. This was the first time, KAS has ever attended a conference in India, and welcomed the new environment and diverse conference which had delegates coming from international schools from all over Africa and Asia. Veteran MUNer, Recue Hwang had the honor of serving as the chair of the Human Rights council and overall KAS had 13 students representing the delegations of Ecuador and Kazakhstan. KAS students represented KAS well, and were active and engaged in debate throughout the 3 day conference. Outside of the conference, students had the chance to explore historical sites around Chennai and visit Mamallapuram, an amazing UNESCO World Heritage Site. Overall, it was a great learning experience for our students!



Owen McMullen
Middle & High School Social Studies Teacher

Children and Learning

By: **Didith Lanario**
Music Teacher

I attended a music workshop in Dubai last November 9-10. This was a workshop that was organized by the Association of Music Teachers in International Schools (AMIS.) In this Music educators conference I attended the following sessions.

- **Fun with Folkdance**

In this workshop, we explored folkdances that can be taught to all ages and make the learning more fun as the students are taught to listen to music and create dance steps. The objective of the activities was to relate music class to study different habits, costumes, and discuss the country's culture.

- **Moving Through Story and Song**

Young children are asked to combine social expectations with learning, by moving in shared space, taking turns and participating in a thoughtful manner. We explored action songs, singing games, and stories that foster understanding of musical and movement concepts for young students.

- **Elephants! Music and Mindset by the keynote speaker- Michael Griffin**

I bought one of his books "Children And Learning for Parents." I was really amazed how he explained how young learners achieve a higher level of achievement through motivation while considering the different factors leading to better accomplishments.

- **Creative Movement in Early Childhood**

- **Charanga International: Vibrant, Modern Resources to Enrich Music Teaching and Learning**

We explored Charanga International's comprehensive music resources, which brings together great music, modern pedagogy, and latest educational technology (this company actually got in touched with me several times, before I applied for this professional development.)

I was really amazed at the keynote speaker as he spoke about "Children and Learning." He said, "Imagine a school system that incorporated a structure where all children were asked to commit to seeking expertise in an area of their choice, as a special project alongside the traditional comprehensive education."

Students would gain a deeper understanding of the requirements to reach for the top. They would practice strategies of goal setting, monitoring, self-evaluation and reflection. They would also realize that quality and quantity of effort is the achievement game changer. The act of commitment, perseverance and resolution would build character.

Bon Berger says, "Excellence is transformational. Once the child sees what he is capable of, he is never quite the same. There is a new self-image, a new notion of possibility, a new appetite for excellence." Researches revealed that a teacher's expectations of high achievement have the greatest influence on student learning and achievement. Teachers who perceive greater potential challenge and encourage students more, teach them better, have more conversations and interact on a more matured level. For students, sensing this is powerfully motivating.

We, teachers and parents must have expectations that all students are capable of progress. Let's all have faith in our students so they may reach the fullness of their potentials. If we believe, they believe!



ANNOUNCEMENT

High school student council presents

SPIRIT WEEK

2022 - AN IN TELEPHONE

Sunday 3RD - Pyjama Day



Monday 4TH - Character Day

Tuesday 5TH - Mismatch/Crazy Hair Day

Wednesday 6TH - Twin Day



Thursday 7TH - Decades Day

GET CAUGHT UP ON THE SPIRIT!

Please be mindful of KAS's dress code policy

Saying of the Week

Without Batting An Eyelid is a common phrase used to describe people taking a situation in their stride, without even blinking in surprise. 'Bate' is a long obsolete English word meaning 'to flutter' or 'to beat the wings' as a butterfly might. When a person reacted to something without showing any signs of surprise (blinking) they were regarded as 'not even batting an eyelid', which later mutated into the phrase we use today.

Minette van der Bijl

High School English Department