



news

news from the trunk

Thursday, March 22, 2018



KAS PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION PRESENTS
A CHARITY EVENT

PTA FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

SILENT
AUCTION

ENTRANCE TICKET
350 SDG
SNACK + BEVERAGES
+ 1 BINGO CARD

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE BY:

AMJAD SHAKIR

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018



KHARTOUM AMERICAN SCHOOL CAMPUS
MOHAMED NAJEB ST.

7:00 PM

TO INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING, ADDITIONAL BINGO CARDS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT 50SDG

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Superintendent's Message

Coming to KAS Next Year - New Teachers

Grade 3 - Heather Davis

Heather Davis is currently teaching Grade 5 at the Singapore International School in Hanoi, Vietnam. Heather has also worked as an Integration IT Specialist in Grades 3-5 at the American International School in Guatemala. She has taught Grades 3-4 at the Yew Chung International School in Beijing China, and Kindergarten in Brampton, Ontario Canada. She has a Master's degree from Walden University in Minnesota. Heather is single and a citizen of Canada.

High School Math - Jon Marck

Jon is presently teaching at the American International School in Niamey, Niger. Jon has worked as an SAT/MCAT English and Math teacher for the Princeton Review in Korea and Toronto, Canada. Jon also taught EAL students in elementary and secondary grades in Fukuoka, Japan. Jon has a Master's degree from the University of Toronto and a Bachelor's degree from Queen's University in Canada. Jon is single and a Canadian citizen.

Pre-School - Suzie Twigt



Suzie is presently teaching in the Early Childhood program at the International School Saigon Pearl in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Suzie is the Designated Lead Safety Officer at ISSP and has attended several training sessions on Safeguarding. Suzie has previously taught in Early Childhood grades in Grand Canaria, Spain, Baku Azerbaijan, and the British School in Cairo, Egypt. Suzie also taught at schools in Jakarta, Indonesia and Rotterdam, Netherlands. Suzie has a Bachelor's degree in Early Years and Primary Education. Suzie is single and a citizen of the Netherlands.

Middle School/High School Guidance and College Counselor - Don Tingley

Don Tingley is presently working as the Whole School Counselor and College Advisor at the American International School in Zagreb, Croatia. Don has previously worked as: the Secondary Vice-Principal and College Advisor at the International American School in Cancun, Mexico, Middle School Advisor at the International School of Yangon in Myanmar, High School Vice-Principal and College Advisor at the International Community School in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and High School Guidance Counselor and Advisor at international schools in Nanjing, China, Colombo, Sri Lanka, and Vientiane, Laos. Don has a Bachelor's degree in Education from the University of New Brunswick, Canada and a Master's degree in International Counseling from Lehigh University in Pennsylvania in the U.S. Don is married and a citizen of Canada.

Middle School Science - Michael Jorgensen

Michael is presently teaching Middle School Science at the Madero Middle School in Chicago, Illinois in the U.S. Michael also teaches a Fine Arts class and co-directs the school play. Michael previously worked overseas as the Education Coordinator for the Public Health Management Institute in Hyderabad, India. Michael taught classes on health, safety, drug and alcohol abuse to students in Hyderabad. Michael has a Bachelor's degree from Western Governor's University in Utah in the U.S. Michael is single and a citizen of the U.S.

Middle School Math - Brian Baldwin

Brian Baldwin is presently teaching grades 6 and 7 Math at the Fruitvale Middle School in Fruitvale, British Columbia, Canada. He has taught several subjects in middle school and has 17 years experience as a teacher. Brian has also worked as a Vice-Principal and as a Teacher Education Instructor. He has a Bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Victoria and a Master's degree in Administration, Curriculum and Instruction from Gonzaga University in the U.S. Brian also participated in a French Immersion program at the University of British Columbia. Brian is married and a citizen of Canada.

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE CHANGES

We will use the following format and schedule for holding Parent Teacher Conferences on Wednesday, March 28. We believe that students benefit greatly from conferences and help make a very important partnership between parents and teachers.

Elementary and ECE Parent Teacher Schedule

Students in Elementary and ECE grades will not attend school on Wednesday, March 28. Teachers will use this day to meet parents. This will provide adequate time for all parents to meet with their child's teachers. As we did for the last Parent Teacher Conference schedule, parents will access an online sign-up sheet to select a time to meet with teachers. Each Elementary/ECE teacher will send access to their parents to sign up with instructions how to do this. Parents who have children in Elementary/ECE grades should select times in late morning or afternoon so they can visit all their children's teachers on this day. If you have questions please contact your child's teacher or the Superintendent. What is new is that parents can select a time in the morning or afternoon.

Middle School / High School Parent Teacher Schedule

Students in Middle School and High School (grades 6 to 12) will be dismissed at 12 noon. There are no individually scheduled times to meet teachers, but we will use an open format as has been done in past conferences. Parents can see teachers from 12:30 pm to 6:00 pm. What is new is that students are dismissed at 12 noon and parents will have more time during the schedule to meet with teachers. If you have any questions please contact Ms. Boutros, our Middle School / High School Principal.

Steve Alexander
KAS Superintendent

Letter from the Middle and High School Principal

High School Stress

High school is often very stressful for students, parents and also for teachers.

Students lose sleep at night worrying about test scores, AP classes, SAT prep, community service hours, sports, extra-curricular activities and the whole college applications process. There is also the added pressure of maintaining a successful social life or making it look like they had one at least on social media.

Parents want the best for their children so they push their children to get higher grades and to take challenging courses. They worry about the rising college tuition rates and whether their children will find gainful employment in both monetary terms and in terms of job satisfaction. They lose sleep at night adding the cost of tuition not to mention rising accommodation prices.

Teachers have to make sure that they cover the curriculum and that they prepare their students for college and AP exams. They care and worry when they see the burden of the high school stress on the faces of their high-achieving students. Teachers also stress and know how it will impact their students when they assign an essay, schedule a test or ask the students to redo an assignment.

High school students these days are often so stressed, sometimes to the point of forgetting that being a teenager can be fun. They are actually not completely enjoying their final years at home with their parents due to this pressure.

We only have these interesting and creative teenagers in our daily lives for a short while. Let's give each other permission to enjoy them and our time together. Let's realize that GPA's, a resume full of extracurricular activities, and college admission letters are not the only marks of a successful and happy life.

Have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend with your family and friends!

Susan Boutros

Middle & High School Principal

Message from the PTA

Dear Parents,

Make sure to join us for a fantastic Bingo Night. Don't miss out on all the fun and games, fantastic prizes, great music and delicious food. We will also be holding a silent auction with an impressive variety of items that is sure to suit your different tastes. There are gift baskets from high-end shops, vouchers from reputable spas, electronics, dinner vouchers ,a travel package for two and much more. We guarantee that there is something for everyone. Please be reminded that this is a charity event from which proceeds will go towards helping a local school in need. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the door. So go ahead buy your tickets, have fun and get some shopping done!

Saying of the Week

A **Leap Of Faith** or a **Leap In The Dark** is a step into the unknown where an outcome cannot be reliably predicted. It is famously suggested the final words of English philosopher Thomas Hobbes (1588 - 1679) were, 'Now I am about to take my last voyage, a great leap in the dark.' Almost immediately others picked up his words. In 1607 Sir John Vanbrugh wrote in his play *The Provoked Wife*, 'Now I am for Hobbes' voyage, a great leap in the dark.' Other celebrated writers, such as Disraeli, Defoe and Byron, later quoted Hobbes, although over the years the phrase has developed a mean and general uncertainty, rather than the leap into eternity.

Minette van der Bijl

High School English Department

From the MS/HS Counseling Office

This semester has already been quite a busy one for KAS students and counseling! In middle school, 6th-8th grades have met with their advisors and the counselor to discuss issues surrounding adolescent health and positive relationships with themselves as they begin to mature into young adults. This is a program we have run for many years and it has been an honor to be with such mature bright young people and competent professionals.

In the university counseling program, 11th graders will take the SAT for the first time this May. This is extremely important and all 11th grade parents have received an email with details. The absolute last day to register for this exam is April 6th. Eleventh grade students are continuing their university research during College & Career Prep to find institutions that provide the "best fit" for their future aspirations.

For the 12th graders, we have had great success (and some scholarships!) with university admissions so far this year. Our seniors have been admitted to top universities in Canada, the UK, the US, and Europe and we will release a full list of acceptances towards the end of the year.

Douglas Dworak
Middle & High School Counselor

Khartoum American School Talent Show is on!

Hear ye, hear ye! The Talent Show at Khartoum American School is on its way. Auditions are ongoing at the music room during break and lunch time. Come with your friends and show us what you've got. Come one, come all! The deadline for auditions is the 5th of April, Thursday. If I don't hear from you, I will not be able to plan out a great evening fun and excitement, so please help me make this happen. If you have any questions, please call me at 0901930171 or email me at dlanario@krtm.org.

KAS Community Talent Show will on the 16th of April at 6:30pm. So mark the date down in your calendars and let's create an evening of fun.

Didith Lanario
Music Teacher

