

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, February 14, 2013

Sudan Days

Khartoum American School
February 19, 20, 21, 2013



Professional Development at KAS

Wednesday, February 27, 2013, **No School for Students**



Letter from the Business Manager Mona Hassan

Dear Parents,

With Sudan being the most ethnically diverse country in Africa in terms of tribes, beliefs, traditions, cultures and even dialogue, we at Khartoum American School have decided to celebrate all these differences, especially the school's population, which has over 38 different nationalities. We believe that celebrating our differences as well as our common interests helps unite and educate us.

Sudan has more than 39 different tribes. Through "Sudan Days Celebrations" we have decided to introduce our students to real Sudanese music using cultural musical instruments. On the third day of Sudan Days the school will be hosting one of the biggest cultural bands in Sudan, known as "Abeer al Balimbo", which translated means "the Scent of the Balimbo."

Balimbo is the actual name of the main instrument played in the band. It is made up of seven tree trunks, cut in a certain way that each trunk gives the sound of one of the standard notes in the musical scale. It is one of the very first instruments invented in Sudan and yet still used.

Watching Abeer Al Balimno band perform will give our students the opportunity to view and better understand more about a culture different from their own.

The performance will expose our students to different Sudanese songs using traditional Sudanese musical instruments, along with dances from the different tribes from all over Sudan with their different costumes.

Because this is a very special band, I would like to encourage you to come join the fun and attend the show. It is on the third and final day of Sudan Days, Thursday 21st of February from 12:15pm – 2:00pm.

I look forward to seeing you all and have a great weekend!



Letter from the Middle and High School Principal Susan Boutros

Dear Parents and Friends,

Apart from the outstanding teaching and learning that is so evident when I visit classrooms and talk to teachers and students, there are many other things going on at Khartoum American School.

Today there was an outstanding PTA Valentine's Day bake sale at school during lunch today. Students and teachers gave candy grams and roses to each other. There will be a Valentine Dance organized by the student council in the school quad this evening. Our high school students are very excited and looking forward to the dance. We would like to kindly ask parents to drop off their students on time because latecomers will not be permitted entry. We also ask that parents arrange transportation for their children and to pick them up promptly at the end of the dance.

Sudan Days will be held on February 19, 20 and 21. Sudan Days are an excellent way of celebrating our host country. Students will have the opportunity to experience the traditions and culture of Sudan. During these days there will be food, henna, donkey rides, tie dye, a souk, and various other activities. Students in Kindergarten through grade 12 will have scheduled opportunities to participate in these activities. There will be a souk in the quad during the first two days of the celebration. Please feel free to stop by and shop, and please send some money with your children so that they will be able to shop with their class. On Thursday, February 21, there will be a performance by our students followed by a performance by the famous Sudanese band, Abeer Al Balimbo. The band is famous for its outstanding Sudanese folkloric music and dance. The performance on Thursday will start at 12:15 and it is for both students and parents.

Please join us for Sudan Days and come on Thursday to enjoy the show!



Le Français Pour Les Grands

IMPROVING CONVERSATIONAL SKILLS IS ALWAYS OUR LINGUISTIC GOAL. WE ARE TRYING TO DO OUR BEST BY APPLYING DIFFERENT METHODS TO ENCOURAGE THE STUDENTS TO BE KEENER AND TO CHALLENGE THEM TO PRACTICE THE LANGUAGE SUCH AS THE USE OF "REMUE MANINGES", OR BRAINSTORMING, TO TRY TO USE AS MUCH VOCABULARY AS POSSIBLE. HAVING STUDENTS OF DIFFERENT LEVELS IN CLASS ALSO HELPS TO MOTIVATE THE STUDENTS TO LEARN FROM EACH OTHER THROUGH VARIOUS ACTIVITIES. ONE OF THE ACTIVITIES LAST QUARTER WAS A FRENCH CLASS NEWSPAPER TO WHICH STUDENTS OF DIFFERENT LANGUAGE ABILITIES CONTRIBUTED WITH ARTICLES, JOKES, PROVERBS AND RIDDLES ACCORDING TO THEIR LEVEL.

MARDI GRAS IS CELEBRATED IN FRANCE BEFORE LENT AND IT HAS BEEN A TRADITION IN THE FRENCH CLASS TO CELEBRATE IT IN THE CLASSROOM. THE CHILDREN WILL BE MAKING "LA CREPE", THE

MOST POPULAR AND TASTY 'PATIS-SERIE'!

MILLE MERCI A M. MARTINEZ, WE ALL APPRECIATE HIS WORK WITH GRADE 12, 11 AND 6.



Learning Center Corner

Strong Character

In the Learning Center, we recognize that as our students develop strong moral character, they tend to experience more and more academic, social, and emotional success. We found a great article connected to this topic. Check it out:

How to Raise a Good Kid: 10 Strategies that Build Strong Character

Posted: July 12th, 2010 by Michele Borba

<http://www.micheleborba.com/blog/2010/07/12/michele-borba-10-parenting-secrets-that-boost-kids-character-and-ethics/>

Working with Our Hands

By: Ms. Jamie

Hand building pottery is an ancient technique that takes knowledge, patience, and skill. For the last few weeks in Art Class, students in Grades 3, 4, and 5 have been working with clay. They now know how to manipulate the clay in order to make well-crafted vessels. The students are able to roll slabs and make coils as well as score, slip, and blend the clay to keep it together. Each piece was created with a great deal of effort and care. These works of art could potentially last more than a lifetime. We hope you enjoy them in your home and that the pieces act as childhood keepsakes and fond memories.



MUN in Khartoum

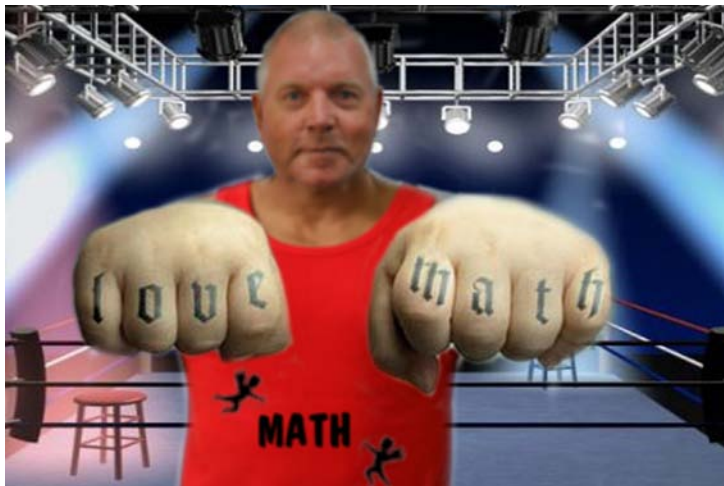
Model United Nations (MUN) is an academic simulation of the United Nations that educates students about civics, current events and world issues, effective communication, globalization, and multilateral diplomacy.

Students fill the roles of diplomats from a variety of world nations and debate potential solutions to real world problems. Through discussion and debate, students aim to create resolutions that will help create peace in the world.

This past weekend, 13 KAS students participated in the annual MUN conference hosted by KICS. Alex Gindi, representing the United States, and Rawan Omer, representing China, both delivered strong speeches concerning the ongoing instability in Somalia at the opening ceremony on Thursday night. Then, along with students from both KICS and Unity, the KAS students spent Friday and Saturday discussing and analyzing current world issues ranging from the current situations in Mali and Syria to the West Bank barrier.

The students put considerable time and effort into preparing for the conference, and their hard work clearly paid off.

Great work KAS!



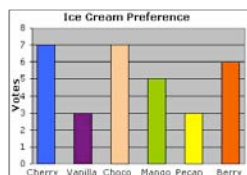
Ella-KG, Imnet-G1, Ibrahim-G2, Neeka-G3, Elbashir-G4, Nita-G5, Ali-G6, Sakuntala-G7.

Elementary School Math problem:

Kindergarten: Draw a quarter. How many cents is a quarter worth?

Grade 1: One dollar is equal to: a) ___ pennies
b) ___ nickels c) ___ dimes d) ___ quarters

Grade 2: Use the graph to answer the following questions. Which was the most popular flavor of ice cream? Which was the least popular flavor of ice cream? How many more votes did Berry have than Pecan? Show your work.



Grade 3: Mrs. Kirby has 45 candies to give to 9 people. Draw an array to show your answer. How many candies does each person receive?

Grade 4: 1) Solve for 'x' in the following open sentence: $75 + x0 = 415$. 2) Insert a parentheses to make a true sentence $12 = 24/6 * 3$

Grade 5: What is the longitude and latitude of Khartoum? Write why there is more than one answer.

Middle School Math problem:

A fraction is equivalent to $\frac{1}{2}$. Its numerator is a multiple of 5 and its denominator is between 21 and 39. What is the fraction?

High School Math problem:

For what values of x on the interval of $[0, 3\pi]$, is $\cot x$ not defined?

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: Answers will vary; **Grade 1:** Answers will vary; **Grade 2:** Answers will vary (example: Portland $51F/34F$ $51-34=17F$; $11C/1C$ $11-1=10C$); **Grade 3:** 7 yards = 21 feet, 2 feet = 24 inches, 6 feet = 2 yards; **Grade 4:** $1869 - 2013 = 144$ years; **Grade 5:** Answers will vary; **Middle School:** 11; **High School:** $1/\sqrt{3}$;



KAS Sport

One week and two days left for the end of the soccer season! Will it be us or will it be them? Who are them? The polls foretell an unprecedented victory for the girls. They have had up to now one tie match, one victory, and two 'win by no show'! The boys will be playing their best for third or second position most probably. It will all depend on this week's result against the Nile Valley team, and the result between Unity and KICS. KICS and Unity are tied in first position right now but things will change.

It is so hard to believe when we look back at when our children were all chasing the ball shouting 'GOAL' every time they kicked the ball to now, where they are actually playing a championship and know what a goal means.



GIFT of Giving Program

In order to get ahead with the Gift of Giving Program, which most of you know is a joint effort between the P.T.A. and Community Service Learning, once again we would be very grateful for donations of clothes. The clothes don't have to be new, but must be in good condition. This is a very worthwhile cause that helps our fantastic workers. Any donations can be given direct to Mr. Michael, Ms. Haska, Lamease Phillips or Iris Son, both in Grade 11. Please pass this message on to your children. Some members of staff have already donated clothes – thanks very much, it is really appreciated.

Circle one:

High School Middle School Elementary School

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Answer: _____