

NEWS

news from the trunk

Thursday, April 24, 2014

Evening BBQ



Welcome!

FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2014, FROM 5:00 PM

New Pool Hours

For KAS community open until 9 pm every day



Letter from the Superintendent, Mr. Steven Alexander

New Pool Hours and Family Barbecue on Friday, April 25

Dear Parents,

The School Board has recently approved that we extend the daily hours of the swimming pool for our community only to 9 pm every day. The new hours will begin tomorrow, Friday, April 25th. To celebrate we are inviting all families to attend a community barbecue tomorrow beginning at 5 pm at KAS. Please join us. Bring what you would like to barbecue and any other food. We will supply charcoal, grills and have cold drinks for sale at the kiosk.

New lighting is being installed for the extended pool hours and other upgrades at the pool area will continue. We know that many in our community will want to take advantage of this as the weather is going to be at its warmest during the next few months. The extended hours will continue throughout the summer break. The pool will be reserved from Sunday to Thursday from 1:00 to 3:00 pm during our summer camp weeks for camp students only.

If you will be in Khartoum from June 15th to July 10th we encourage you to take advantage of our summer camp, which is open to all students (ages 6-14) both from KAS and outside KAS. You can register for weekly sessions at our school office. The summer camp will be held from Sunday to Thursday starting at 7:15 am and finishing at 3:00 pm.

I would like to also remind parents that if you are missing clothing items for your children that were worn to school, please check our lost and found box periodically. It is very helpful if you label clothing items with your child's name or initials, especially for young children. This will help us identify items and return them to children. Thanks for your help with this.

Steve Alexander

Would you like to be a board member?

Annual Association General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14, 2014. The school will be looking to recruit some new board members to serve for the upcoming school year. If you are interested please send an email to Mr. Alexander at salexander@krtams.org, along with a short biography that can be distributed to the association. The deadline for applications is the 7th of May, 2014.

Dear Parents,

As our 11th grade students begin narrowing down their search for universities and colleges that they plan to apply to next year, it is a great time to consider all of the options available to your child, and to discover which type of higher education will be the best fit for his/her future. While it's easy to fall into the trap of assuming there are only a dozen or so "good schools" that your child can attend, it is important to remember that "good" schools exist all over the world, and offer great employment opportunities once students graduate. The most important thing to remember is whether or not a school is a "good fit" for your son or daughter.

One way to begin doing this is to talk to your child about what career he/she wants to pursue in the future. Educating children about the variety of careers that exist, is an important step in the college choice process. For example, many children have a narrowed view of what it takes to become a doctor – straight A's and a lot of schooling after high school. However, sharing with them the variety of careers within the health field can open up their options to careers that match their interests and abilities, and still have a high guarantee for job placement and high earning salaries. In fact, many of these jobs only require a two-year degree from a community or technical school. This means less schooling, faster job placement, and less money out of a parent's pocket. Along with the decreased time-to-degree, it is also common for many of these schools to have lower tuition and more support for international students. They are a great option that all parents should consider when helping their child choose a college and career path.

Below is a listing of just some of the careers that require a/an Associate's (2 years), Bachelor's (4 years), or Master's Degree (more than 4 years). The options are out there! If you would like to discuss this possibility for your child, please set up a time to meet with me.

Two-Year Associate Degree	Four-Year Bachelor's Degree	Graduate Degree
Aircraft and Avionics Technicians	Air Traffic Controllers	Advanced-Practice Nurses
Cardiovascular Technologists	Clinical Laboratory Technologists	Archaeologists
Computer Support Specialists	Computer Systems Analysts	Biological Scientists
Dental Hygienists	Construction Managers	Clinical Psychologists
Drafters	Mechanical Engineers	College Professors
Engineering Technicians	Federal Agents	Curators
Forestry Technicians	Graphic Designers	Dentists
Human-Service Assistants	Insurance Agents	Economists
Lodging Managers	Journalists	Government Lawyers
Paralegals	Landscape Architects	Librarians
Pharmacy Technicians	Personal Financial Advisors	Physical Therapists
Physical Therapist Assistants	Physician Assistants	Rehabilitation Counselors
Preschool Teachers	Public Accountants	Statisticians
Registered Nurses	Teachers	Surgeons
Science Technicians	Wildlife Technicians	Veterinarians



Cyberbullying... What it means?

By: Ms. Egbal Mohamed



Last week there were a few incidents of students breaching our Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for the use of the laptop and KAS Network. We have had some other incidents before and most of them involved the 12-15 years old age group. As an educator and parent too, I feel that it is

important to address this issue to our school community and share some tips about how to handle them. I also want to mention to our community that it is always important to have the support of parents when addressing breaches in AUP.

Cyberbullying is the use of different digital media such as cell phones and the Internet to harass and humiliate others. It is no different from the physical bullying and can be even worse because it could happen anytime and in any place. It usually takes on a variety of forms, such as harassing or imitating someone, spreading rumors, or posting embarrassing information about someone online. This kind of bullying can have a detrimental and debilitating effect on students and makes them feel humiliated and embarrassed. At KAS, we do all we can to prevent this type of thing from happening. Parents at home can spot the cyberbullying too if they are observant. Here are a few tips for parents about cyberbullying. These tips are listed on commonsensemedia.org website. Hopefully it will help parents to recognize the warning signs of cyberbullying:

What Families Can Do

Pertinent questions to ask are: You seem down. What's going on at school? Is anything upsetting happening online? I'm here for you and so are your friends. Talk to me anytime. Are there any teachers at school who have dealt with these kinds of situations before? I think you should tell one of them about what's been happening. Bullies want attention, power, and status, which explains why they need to cause drama. I saw a news story about a teen who was bullied online. What would you do in that situation?

Recognize context.

Cyberbullying is often not thought of as "cyberbullying" to the teens involved. Even though an incident has a history, a story, and nuance, rather than referring to it as "cyberbullying," try the words "digital cruelty," "abuse," or "being mean" online. Help teens understand when behavior crosses the line. Help your teen tune into his or her own feelings. If they feel emotionally or physically scared, it's time to get help. Encourage empathy.

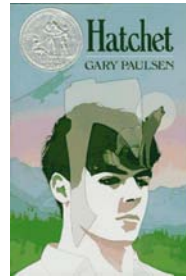
Student's Corner



Community Service club has been established by Mr. Michael and its purpose is to create events for the school and earn money for a good cause. We are celebrating the end

of the year by having this to entertain all high schoolers before exams. The KAS Neon Dance is held on Thursday April 24 2014. The community service team, are pulling out all of the stops to make this work! We are so looking forward to the dance and we are sure it will be a huge success! See you there!

Grade 6 Language Arts



To finish off a very productive academic year, Grade 6 has started reading the highly acclaimed novel *Hatchet*. Brian Robeson is a thirteen-year-old son of divorced parents. As he travels on a Cessna 406 bush plane to visit his father in the oil fields in northern Canada for the summer, the pilot suffers a massive heart attack and dies; Brian tries to land the plane, but ends up crash-landing into a lake in the forest, but having to learn to survive on his own because he was the only one on the plane to Canada, and has to do so with nothing but his hatchet - a gift his mother gave him shortly before his plane departed.

Throughout the summer, Brian survives in the endless wilderness with only his hatchet. He discovers how to make fire with the hatchet and eats whatever food he can find, such as rabbits, birds, turtle eggs, fish, and various berries and fruit. He deals with threats from animals such as a porcupine, bear, skunk, moose and wolves. He eventually became a fine woodsman and crafted a bow, arrows, and a fishing spear to aid in his hunting, and fashions a shelter out of the underside of a rock overhang. During his time alone, Brian struggles with memories of home and the bittersweet memory of his mother, whom Brian had caught cheating on his father prior to their divorce.

Initially, Brian is devastated and starts to give up hope, however he soon comes to the stark realization that only one person that can help Brian and that's Brian himself. He draws inspiration and motivation from what his former English teacher told him about the power of positive thinking. Brian harnesses this power and uses it to help him to survive. A positive outlook on life is arguably one of the most powerful assets you can have. Positive people expect success; good health, happiness, wealth and good relationships and those things tend to show up in their lives. This is not because they are already successful, or because they are more confident and thus more outgoing, it is simply down to attitude. Thus the basic law is that positivity breeds positivity and if you expect good things; good things happen and vice versa.

While the novel *Hatchet* is a really good read it also teaches middle school students a valuable life-skill, never give up and stay positive!

English Sayings...



You Scratch My Back And I'll Scratch Yours is a saying with its origins in the English Navy. These days we use it to suggest two people will do each other a favor, or look out for each other so that both parties benefit from one another's actions. During the 17th and 18th centuries the English Navy was traditionally brutal and punishments for disobedience or absenteeism were unimaginably harsh. It was common for a crewmember to be tied to a mast after being sentenced to a dozen lashes, with a 'cat o' nine tails', for minor offences such as being drunk. A 'cat' was nine lengths of thin knotted ship rope bound at one end into a handle. These punishments were usually carried out in full view of the crew, by one of the victim's crewmates. But it was also likely that the crewmate would himself be a victim of the cat o' nine tails at some stage on a voyage, so would be lenient with his victim by applying only light stokes and merely 'scratching' his back. He himself would then receive equally lenient treatment by another shipmate if and when he was on the receiving end.

What is student centered teaching

One of the biggest challenges modern teachers face, is that they are teaching students for the unknown. The career paths that many of our students will follow, do not exist yet. This means it is much more important to teach students to think for themselves and to remain academically curious than to just teach them subject content. Students must be taught to want to discover the subject content for themselves and that is a huge and difficult task; much more challenging than simply teaching content. To do this student centered teaching has been and is still being developed.

Unfortunately student centered teaching is often confused with a student master / teacher slave relationship where every whim of the student is catered to and everything is done for the student, but that cannot be more incorrect. Student centered teaching has high expectations of students and gives them no place to hide. Students have to do as much as possible for themselves while teachers guide them on their journey of discovery.

In a curriculum driven school the teacher focuses on the curriculum and students either keep up or fall by the wayside. In a student centered school teachers must still teach the curriculum but they try to tailor learning material to suit each student's learning style or ability.

Take the simple example of learning to use a pair of scissors. If the curriculum determines that a child should be able to cut along a curved line by a certain age; that is the expectation. In a curriculum driven school the teacher will show the students how to use a pair of scissors and provide them with templates on which to practice cutting. If they succeed – great – if they don't, they fail. In a student centered school neither the teacher nor the teacher's assistant will cut the template for the student. They will observe the student and try to work out why the student is unable to manipulate the scissors effectively. Once the student's problem has been determined the teacher will use different techniques to teach that student how to use the scissors until he is able to cut intricate patterns with confidence. This means at a student centered school the teacher or teacher's assistant will NOT tie children's shoelaces, but teach the children to tie their own shoelaces.

...to be continued



Mr. C's Amazing Math Contest

Elementary School Math problems:

Kindergarten: $2 + 7 = ?$

Grade 1: Fill in the correct $<$ $>$ symbol.
 $56 \text{ lb} \underline{\quad} 23 \text{ lb}$ $6 \text{ lb} \underline{\quad} 56 \text{ lb}$

Grade 2: Ms. Hiba has 15 cookies. Namassa, Imnet, and Adalia are given an equal number of cookies. How many cookies does each girl get?

Grade 3: Elli and Ibrahim are driving to WONT on Africa road to buy scary masks so that they can scare their sisters. Kareem is sitting in the back. They have already driven $\frac{1}{3}$ of the way. They have still got 12 more miles to drive. How long is the whole trip?

Grade 4: Max spent $\frac{1}{2}$ of his money on lunch. He had \$ 3.20 left. How much money did he start with?

Grade 5: Higher or lower (use $<$, $>$):
 $\frac{6}{8} \underline{\quad} \frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{4}{6} \underline{\quad} \frac{4}{18}$ $\frac{3}{10} \underline{\quad} \frac{4}{5}$

Middle and High School Math Problem:

What is the decimal .0001 as a percent?

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: 7; **Grade 1:** 10, 4, 10, 10, 10; **Grade 2:** Six; **Grade 3:** Answers will vary; **Grade 4:** $\frac{2}{4}$, $\frac{3}{6}$, $\frac{4}{8}$...; **Grade 5:** $\frac{5}{4}$; **Middle & High School:** 1, 2, 3;



This Week's Winners

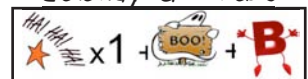
Ragad (Pre-K), Hanien (KG), Adrian (G1), Nour (G2), Elli (G3), Qistina (G5), Sakuntala (G8).

Ross's Rebus

I am looking forward to see your answers!

This Week's Winner is...

Elementary School Rebus



Middle and High School Rebus



Teacher's Rebus



Amina, Grade 5

Solutions from the last week:

Elementary School: Candy Crush; M&H School: Bump, Set, Spike;