

NEWS FROM THE TRUNK
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27 2014



**INTERNATIONAL
POTLUCK
DINNER**

& School Community Show
Thursday, December 4 2014
from 7:00 pm

DONATIONS FROM THE NATIONS



KAS



See you at the International Potluck Dinner, Thursday December 4

Letter from the Superintendent, Dr. Robert Beck

Dear Parents,

As you know, next Thursday, December 4 at 7 PM is the International Potluck Dinner. This is an important and fun event when students, parents, faculty, support staff and members of the larger Khartoum community come together to enjoy an evening of socializing, entertainment, and great "international" food. KAS is very proud to host this annual event.

The International Potluck Dinner is a visible way that we demonstrate support for the KAS Mission "Cs" of Citizenship and Community. Regarding the C of Citizenship, by hosting the International Potluck Dinner on our beautiful campus we are promoting global citizenship and "the expectation that our students reflect upon their own world and the world around them... to develop the skills required to make positive changes worldwide..." And regarding the C of Community, the Dinner highlights for students, parents, and faculty that our school represents a "...partnership of stakeholders who are actively engaged in the school and collectively shape its direction and ethos." The Dinner is a way of celebrating our diversity. It is our diversity (our students and their families represent over 35 nationalities) that makes KAS so unique.

I know you and your children will enjoy the International Potluck Dinner. In advance, and on behalf of the KAS School Board, school administration, the faculty, and, of course, the students of KAS, Thank You for participating in this wonderful evening and celebration of KAS and our school's internationalism! And a big big thank you to Mona Hassan, KAS Business Manager, and the faculty and community volunteers who are helping organize the International Potluck Dinner.

Letter from the Curriculum Coordinator / Enrollment Director, Dr. Anna Beck

SERVICE AND SERVICE LEARNING

What is Service Learning? And what does Service Learning have to do with KAS? These were the 2 questions that were addressed at our teacher professional development session held on Tuesday, November 25.

Service Learning focuses on education – it has student learning at its core. Students actively participate in the process of understanding, integrating and applying knowledge from various subject areas as they work to improve their communities. Our students and teachers are already involved in service- food and clothing drives, recycling, gardening.

We believe that Service Learning brings these efforts under one umbrella, gives students a structured learning experience and can become a 'signature' activity for KAS.

There are 4 kinds of Service Learning: Direct Service, Indirect service, Advocacy, and Research. Each of these categories offers unique benefits and opportunities for students to continually apply and develop their knowledge in ways that meet and enrich the academic curriculum.

There are 5 essential and interdependent stages that every successful Service Learning activity follows:

- Investigation
- Preparation and Planning
- Action
- Reflection
- Demonstration

Together these constitute a process that is the key to student's effectiveness and critical to their learning transferable skills and content.

What's next? We know that Service Learning has benefits for students, teachers and the community. We know that education becomes more relevant for students when math, science, social studies, technology, the arts, science, literature, languages are all applied, used and placed in contexts where they really matter.

After the professional development session with the faculty on Service Learning, we believe that the conversation for creating a Service Learning program here at KAS has been advanced.

Letter from the Early Childhood Center & Elementary School Principal, Phil Centers

Dear Students, Parents, and Community Members,

Last week Ms. Alia, our Librarian, wrote an article in E-news about the award-winning Newbery and Caldecott Medal books that we have in our library. Her article inspired me to add a note about the Newbery books. This note also has to do with a subject I explored last week in my E-news article, namely: what out of the vast universe of knowledge available to us now do we teach students in the complex times we live in, to equip them to be successful both in school and in their lives? There's so much to choose from, and just a dozen years or so between early childhood and high school graduation to share the things we feel are most important, and that the students also feel are important to them to learn. For many people reading would be near the top of their list of essential subjects that most modern human beings need to master in order to be successful in life. This is because reading makes accessible to us much of what is captured and

TEEN CHOICES AND DIGITAL FOOTPRINTS

stored as the world's knowledge, in the form of words, articles, books, etc. And reading, if taught properly and at the right developmental time for students, becomes something that is tremendously fun and rewarding and that we love doing for pleasure. However, even if taught right and at the right time, for us to love reading we have to find things that we love to read. This is where something like the Newbery books can help.

I have loved the Newbery winning books since I was in sixth grade in 1969-1970, when my beloved 6th grade teacher, Mrs. Stoffregen, read Newbery books to me and my classmates every school day after lunchtime. Over the years I have continued reading old and new favorite Newbery books, both on my own and to my students as a teacher. Then ten years ago I decided to give myself the challenge to read every book that had received the prestigious Newbery Medal, something I had thought of doing since Mrs. Stoffregen's class. I began by reading that year's winning book ("The Tale of Despereaux" by Kate DiCamillo) and worked back through the years reading each year's winning book (and the series of books it was part of, if part of a series) until I finished the first winning book from 1922—"The Story of Mankind" by Hendrik Willem van Loon three years ago to complete my quest. Each year I read the new Newbery Medal book to keep current, the latest of which was "Flora & Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures" also by Kate DiCamillo (one of six authors to win the medal twice).

Now I invite all KAS students to join me in the Newbery Readers Club! You choose your level of challenge! Read just one Newbery Medal book to become a member of the Newbery Readers Club. Or start with a favorite decade from the last hundred years (for instance, the 1970s) and read all Newbery Medal books from that decade to become a member of the Newbery Readers Decade Club. Or accept the ultimate challenge and match my achievement by reading all Newbery Medal winning books (93 so far) and become a member of the Newbery Readers Hall of Fame! Can you do it in less than the seven years it took me? Sure you can! Keep a log of the Newbery Medal books you have read, and share a copy with me so that I can acknowledge you to the school community. Here's to happy readers who have mastered this essential skill in today's world.

Nowadays, in the world we live in, social media websites have become the tools that people use to communicate with each other. Skype, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, and Instagram are a few applications to name. There is no doubting that these free apps have helped in connecting families and friends faster and easier.

Throughout my teaching years at KAS, I found that teaching middle and high school about staying safe online can be a challenge. Teenagers sometimes object when adults say: "Do this and don't do that". As a matter of fact they will sometimes try to do what you will say "don't do" to experience the fact by themselves. Some of them probably will take the risk and are going to try to do something they have been told not to do.

Also the issue of cyber bullying among teenagers can be frightening. Some of the middle and high school students don't always recognize cyber bullying and they think they are just joking around.

After I read a lot of articles written about how colleges starting to screen students' applications for admission by checking their social media pages, I decided to share some examples of cyber bullying with my grade 8 and high school students so they can relate these examples to the real world. They are learning the dangers of cyber bullying and of leaving a non-erasable digital footprint.

At KAS we work together to ensure that our students are safe while they are using their laptop at school. We have installed filtering software to be sure they are not exposed to any inappropriate materials. In addition, we limited the access to social media websites during school time. At home we encourage parents to be monitoring the use of technology in general and be involved in what is going on in their childrens digital lives. I know this is easier to say than to do. But I encourage you to always discuss proper use of the Internet with your child. They may resist hearing what you have to say, but in the end they will thank you for teaching them to be cautious. Please check the link below for more information about proper uses of the Internet.

<http://www.cybersmart.gov.au/Teens.aspx>

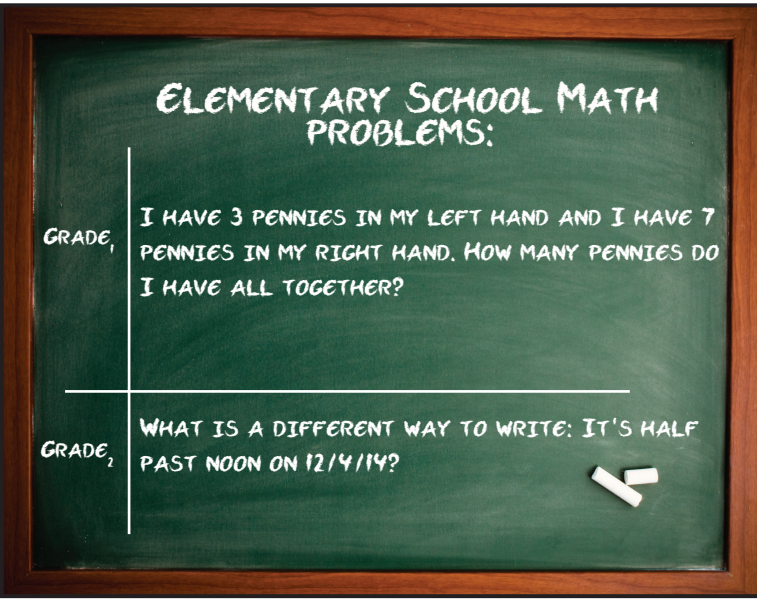
Egbal Mohamed
Technology Coordinator

NEWS ABOUT THE MUN

Recently, nine of our junior and senior students attended the prestigious The Hague International Model United Nations conference in Singapore. This was a wonderful opportunity for the students to engage in debate, research current global issues, and familiarise themselves with the complex world of international diplomacy. I am pleased to say this was a great learning experience for all students, and would especially like to commend our two ambassadors, Jae Kyoung Lee (LJ) and Rania Hassan. Congratulations delegates! Next stop- world peace.



Jocelyn Urkow
HS Language Arts and Model
United Nations



Last weeks solutions:
 KG: (■ ■ ▲ ● ■ ■ ▲) G1. (Shoroq, Jason David), G2. (48hrs)

Last weeks WINNERS are!



KG. Mohamed
 G1. Hanien
 G2. Daniel

Basketball at KAS

What do LeBron James no.23 and KAS Basketball have in common?

Answer: Put in a nutshell- true grit!

We have had a very exciting season, and the players gave it their best. It was amazing to witness the good plays and the character the students showcased.

The highlights of the 2014 season:

- Rise in the number of students who came out for basketball.
- The valuable experience that comes with being part of a team.
- Players learned new on-the-ball and off-the-ball skills.
- The fitness boom we're experiencing at school.
- New faces that were immediately part of our small yet tough school.
- The never-say-die attitude from all players.
- The junior boys team who did not lose against their age group.

At times, players were faced with tough competition. Our younger student- athletes will still learn what to do in these difficult situations. Our older students showed dedication and discipline and great sportsmanship, and this ensured great games to watch.

I would like to express my gratitude to the coaches who were part of every single game and who were responsible for many memorable moments this season. We're part of a comprehensive program at our school, and this program is starting to show dividends. I also would like to thank the maintenance staff; they were always ready to set up the court and equipment. Thanks to Dr. Rob Beck for the support he gave by always coming out to see how the students were faring and wishing the teams all the best.

Anticipated highlights for 2015:

- Promising players for the new season
- New surfaced basketball court
- Positive coaching techniques
- Exploring the idea of a possible tour abroad.

Here is to an excellent season Roll on 2015!

Hanro van der Merwe
 Athletic Director

Ross's Rebus

LOOKING 2 C UR ANSWERS!

Elementary Rebus



Middle & High Rebus



Faculty Rebus



Last week's solutions:

Elem: Run turkey, it's time for Thanksgiving
 MS/HS: Drop the Bass
 Teachers: Pumpin' caffeine in my veins

Last week's WINNERS are!

MsHs: Ali gr. 8
 Faculty: Magdi

English Saying

If something **Goes By The Board** it means it is cast aside, lost in the events. On the old wooden tall ships the 'board' was the side of the boat. Anything falling off a ship and lost forever was regarded as gone past the board, or 'by the board'.