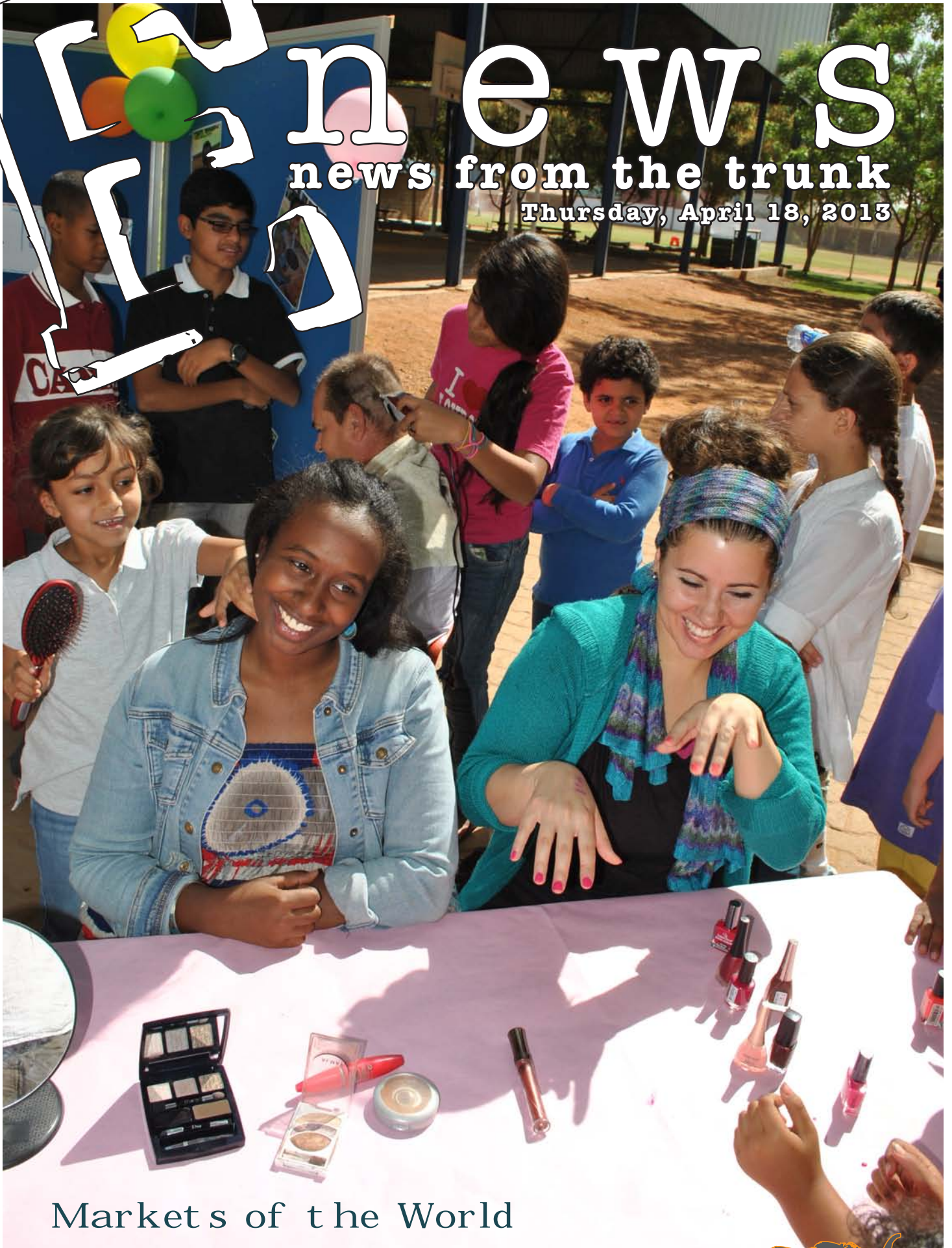


news

news from the trunk

Thursday, April 18, 2013



Markets of the World

Professional Development

No School for Students Thursday, April 25, 2013 at KAS



Letter from the Superintendent, Greg Hughes

Dear Parents,

In recent weeks we have spoken about how we continually challenge our students using authentic learning experiences. These types of activities engage our students and encourage them to see learning as a fun exercise and something that can be accessed both within the classroom and outside, thus promoting the concept of life-long learning.

This week, our Grade 1 students, along with some help from their colleagues in Grade 6, embarked on an extremely ambitious plan by setting up their own market, or souk, in the school. The idea was to give the students their first look into the world of business, therefore our young entrepreneurs set up a range of stalls offering a wide range of goods and services. Students were given the option as to what type of shop they would open and some creative ideas emerged, from a bakery to a beauty salon.

The students were then responsible for their own marketing, quality control, advertising and customer service, along with the numerous other skills that make a small business successful. While the extent of their profit was not known at the time of writing this article, the fun, enjoyment and knowledge that they gleaned from this exercise was priceless. Kudos of course goes out to Mr. Charrington and Ms. Erini, who made this exercise possible, along with the help of our Grade 6 students.

Thinking back on my own childhood experiences I struggle to remember being exposed to this type of learning environment and I guess one can only wish that we could trade places with our current student body.

As always, have a great weekend.



Letter from the Middle and High School Principal, Susan Boutros

It's almost the end of the school year and some students are getting restless. It is very normal that as the end of the school year approaches, many students experience more stress.

It seems odd that students would be stressed at the end of the year, since many are now very comfortable with their routines, rhythms and schedules. For example, Our 6th graders who were new coming to middle school in the fall have already figured out combination locks, how to read the rotating schedule, how to move from class to class, that seven teachers means seven different ways of doing things, and on top of that, their bodies have grown. They have already understood that they no longer resemble the little kids that joined middle school in the fall. They have all grown in so many ways.

Parents also report that they see odd and unpredictable behavior at home during this time. Things seem to escalate quickly, tempers are shorter, and behavior doesn't seem consistent. It seems odd as most students are excited to be done and off for the summer, but the change definitely affects different students in different ways.

High school and middle school students worry more about grades and taking tests. Students who are leaving the school and the country worry about leaving friends and favorite teachers behind. For many reasons the end of the year at school brings with it a lot of emotions.

Seniors are very excited about the upcoming summer, but that also brings a lot of transition as students are heading to all parts of the world in a few short months. There can be a lot of anxiety thinking about new beginnings and leaving the comfort of home and the school that they know so well.

If you are feeling any of the stress and anxiety, know you are not alone. Teachers, parents and students all over the world have reported that they feel more stress towards the end of the school year. The students will soon settle in, as will you, with their new summer routine. Then for those returning, August will soon come and we will get to do it all over again!



What's up in Music



After the Musical Play "Cinderella," the students are back on track in music class. The Kindergarten class is learning songs on how people go from place to place. This week, they are singing a dinosaur song, performing a dinosaur poem and learning rhyming words. The students are also clapping patterns of short and long sounds. The First graders have just concluded their lesson on notable words. They are able to create words using 3-5 notes. I am very happy with the progress of the students.



The Second graders are continuing to analyze RONDO form and are making nontraditional illustrations to show their understanding. Third graders are learning about a French composer, Saint Saens and his musical composition The Carnival of the Animals. They made a wonderful bulletin board on instruments of the orchestra as well as animals that represent the sounds of the instruments. Fourth grade class is focusing on mastery of notes, time signatures and counting the beats to show measures. They are doing very well in identifying the right pattern that the teacher plays as a part of their aural training. Fifth graders have moved on to a higher level in music theory. They are enjoying making and identifying intervals of second, thirds, fourths, fifths and octave. In addition to this, the students are enjoying how to use leger lines. These past two weeks have been a great challenge for the students. However, we are also finding time to do something fun like playing musical games. The new game that the fourth graders are playing is Sound/Instrument TAC TAC TOE. It is fun, and you must try it.



Learning Center Corner

Learning Center News

Another emotional week for the Learning Center as we say goodbye to another member of our team. Ms. Ilona is leaving not only us, but Sudan as a whole. She and her family are headed for greener lands. She will be missed by many, but they have already promised to keep in touch. Ms. Ilona we wish you much success and happiness. We wait to hear your news.



Student Souq

Love it or hate it, we all need to go shopping in our daily lives! Markets come in different types, sizes and (shapes) selling all kinds of goods and services, and there is always so much activity, interaction and buzz going on. They are a great place for students to learn about business, the difference between goods and services, product value, advertising and math. Grade 1 organized a souq as a hands-on, fun learning experience. They decided to have a BBQ, juice stall, beauty salon and bakery. They spent a lot of time in class preparing all the food, setting up the souq, designing their posters/signs, and deciding on prices so that they can make a profit. Grade 6 also joined in to help as big brothers and sisters since they are doing a unit on marketplaces and trade in Social Studies. It was a great collaborative effort; the students had fun and learned a lot about the hard work that goes into organizing a successful souq and coming up with quality products that attract lots of people!





Elementary School Math problem:

Kindergarten: $3 + 1 =$

Grade 1: Show the number 20 in five different ways. Represent it in two ways that do not use numbers.

Grade 2: "Student Created Math Question: I have two groups. Each group has 6 dots. How many dots in all?"

Grade 3: Solve these number models.

$(25 \times 4) + 73 = ?$

$5 \times (4 + 6) = ?$

Grade 4: Solve the following open sentences:

$8 * g = 24$

$m/9 = 8$

Grade 5: Discount Denims sells a \$60 pair of jeans at a 30% discount. Jeans Factory sells them for 20% off. How much more will you save at Discount Denims than at Jeans Factory? Show work.

Middle School Math problem:

Two cars are traveling towards one another on the same road. One is traveling at a speed of 55 mph and the other is traveling at a speed of 45 mph. They are currently 2000 miles apart. How far apart will the cars be one hour before they meet?

High School Math problem:

How many seconds are in a year?

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: 4; **Grade 1:** 1/2; **Grade 2:** 6; **Grade 3:** 9.536; **Grade 4:** Cannot be shown; **Grade 5:** Rename a percent as a decimal divide by 100, 50% $50/100 = .50$, Rename a decimal as a percent multiply by 100, $50 \times 100 = 50.00$; **Middle School:** Mom = 33 Maureen = 13; **High School:** 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34 (add the previous two terms to get the next term);

Circle one:

High School Middle School Elementary School

Name: _____ Grade: _____

Answer: _____



Muli-KG, Nabil-G1, Muhammed-G2, Syahmi-G3, Ahmed-G4, Jayden-G5, Celeste-G6.

Poetry Days at KAS



April 21-24 will be Poetry Days at KAS. National Poetry Month was inaugurated by the Academy of American Poets in 1996. National Poetry Month is now held every April, when schools, publishers, libraries, booksellers, and poets band together to celebrate poetry and its vital place in culture. Thousands of organizations participate through readings, festivals, book displays, workshops, and other events. You may go to www.poets.org for more information.

Calendar for School Year 2013 -2014

- August 10.....New Faculty Arrive
- August 11 – 13.....New Faculty Orientation
- August 14, 15 and 17.....All Faculty Work Days
- August 18.....First Day of School for Nursery/Preschool
- August 20.....First Day of School for K - 12
- October 11 - 19.....Fall Break (Eid al Adha)
- November 4.....No School (Islamic New Year)
- December 20 – January 11....Winter Break
- January 14.....No School (Prophet Mohamed's Birthday)
- March 7 - 15.....Spring Break
- April 18 – 21.....Long Weekend (Easter and Sham El Nasim)
- June 5.....Last Day of School
- June 6 - 7.....Faculty Work Days

Total Student Days: 178
 2 Sports Days on Weekends
 3 Professional Development Days
 Subject to change as conditions may warrant.