

# NEWS FROM THE

## THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2015

### PTA PICNIC -CHARITY EVENT- "KAS TO MYGOMA ORPHANAGE"



**KAS**

Aladdin play - Tuesday May 19<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm  
Science Fair - Wednesday May 20 1:30 - 3:00pm





## Letter from the Superintendent, Dr. Robert Beck

Dear KAS Parents,

I am writing to share with you the new terms of payment starting in the 2015-2016 school year.

Please be advised that due to the school experiencing ongoing and significant challenges in securing US dollars to fulfill its financial commitments, it has been decided that starting with the academic year 2015-2016 the school will no longer be accepting USD checks from local banks in Sudan. Please feel free to contact the administration office if you have any queries.

Now that we are in the final month of the school year, the children and staff are very busy with year-end activities. It is a very exciting time at KAS. I hope that you join us, for example, to enjoy the school play Aladdin that is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19 at 7 PM. And I encourage you to visit the science fair on Wednesday, May 20 from 1:30 - 3:00pm. These events will be memorable and enjoyable!  
Sincerely yours,

**Deadline extended!**  
**Would you like to be a  
School Board member?!**

**The KAS Annual Association General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 6pm in the Library, followed immediately at 7pm by the school production of the musical play "Aladdin." The school is looking to recruit new board members; those selected by vote of the parents at the General Meeting are entrusted to serve a two-year term. Please consider serving the school in this unique way. If you are interested, please send an email to Dr. Rob Beck, KAS Superintendent, at [rbeck@krtams.org](mailto:rbeck@krtams.org), along with a short biography that can be distributed to the Association. The deadline for applications is the 18th of May, 2015. We look forward to seeing you on the evening of the 19th!**

**School Opening and Closing Times starting August ---- 2015-2016 8:00am classes begin and ends 2:50pm (Gates open at 7:45)**

**Nursery and Early-Childhood (8:00am - 12:30pm)**

## THE KAS 2015 SCIENCE FAIR

THE KAS 2015 SCIENCE FAIR IS DIFFERENT THAN KAS SCIENCE FAIRS OF PREVIOUS YEARS. FOR ONE THING- THIS YEAR, THE FAIR WILL BE HELD DURING SCHOOL HOURS ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 20TH FROM 1:30-3 RATHER THAN AFTER SCHOOL. IT WILL BE SET UP IN THREE AIR-CONDITIONED CLASSROOMS -MS. JULIANE'S, MS. LYN'S AND MR. METCALF'S CLASSROOMS RATHER THAN IN THE QUAD. IT IS ALSO HAS A UNIQUE FOCUS AND GOAL SOLVING REAL WORLD PROBLEMS. THE WORK WILL BE JUDGED DIFFERENTLY AS WELL. JUDGES WILL BE ASKED TO LOOK FOR GOOD UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROBLEM, COMPREHENSIVE PROBLEM SOLVING, AND PRACTICAL THINKING THAT GUIDES SENSIBLE ACTION.

AT THE AISA MARCH CONFERENCE IN CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA, MS. EGBAL AND MS. JULIANE CREATED THE NEW FORMAT FOR THE SCIENCE FAIR IN OUR PROJECT-BASED LEARNING WORKSHOP. WE DECIDED ON THE THREE FOCUS TOPICS AND OUTLINED THE PROJECT. MS. JULIANE ALSO INCORPORATED WHAT SHE HAD LEARNED IN A WORKSHOP ON TEACHERS AND STUDENTS WORKING TOGETHER TO CREATE THE FUTURE. THE DRIVING QUESTION FOR THIS YEAR'S SCIENCE FAIR AROSE FROM THIS PROCESS. EACH PROJECT SHOULD ANSWER THE QUESTION WHAT CAN I DO NOW THAT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN 2025 IN THE ENERGY CRISIS, GLOBAL WARMING CLIMATE CHANGE, AND/OR WATER ISSUES? STUDENTS COULD CHOOSE TO USE ANY OF THE FOUR 21ST CENTURY SKILLS OF CRITICAL THINKING, COMMUNICATION, COLLABORATION OR INNOVATION TO ADDRESS AN ASPECT OF THEIR FOCUS.

EVERY STUDENT IN THE KAS MIDDLE SCHOOL AND 9TH GRADE INDIVIDUALLY RESEARCHED THE ISSUES IN EACH OF THE THREE TOPICS, CHOSE A FOCUS, BRAINSTORMED SOLUTIONS, RESEARCHED THREE OF THEIR SOLUTIONS, AND CREATED THEIR OWN DRIVING QUESTION AND A PLAN FOR COMPLETING THEIR PROJECT. WE DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANCE OF AND HOW TO DO EACH STEP. ONCE EACH STUDENT COMPLETED THIS PROCESS, HE OR SHE HAS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ALONE, IN PAIRS, OR IN GROUPS TO COMPLETE A PROJECT FOR EXTRA CREDIT.

WE HAVE BEEN PLEASED WITH THE STUDENTS ENTHUSIASM, THINKING AND EFFORTS SO FAR. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING THEIR THOUGHTS AND SEEING WHAT THEY HAVE CREATED. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO COME BY AND SEE THE RESULTS OF THIS YEAR'S NEW KIND OF SCIENCE FAIR ON MAY 20TH BETWEEN 1:30 AND 3.

Juliane Rothan-Centers  
MS/HS Science Teacher

### English Saying

**Dollars to donuts**, meaning a certainty, is a pseudo betting term, pseudo in that it didn't originate with actual betting involving donuts, but just as a pleasant-sounding alliterative phrase which indicated short odds - dollars are valuable but donuts aren't. The phrase parallels the earlier English betting expression **a pound to a penny**. The phrase appears to have originated in mid 19th century USA. The earliest citation for it is in the newspaper *The Daily Nevada State Journal*, February 1876, which despite being a conspicuously American publication, preferred the 'dollars to doughnuts' spelling (the 'donut' spelling was a mid 20th century adaptation). The phrase didn't settle down to its current 'donut' version for some time. In 1884, there's a reference in G. W. Peck's *Boss Book* to 'dollars to buttons' and in August 1904, The Boston Herald referred to 'dollars to cobwebs'. Buttons and cobwebs were presumably chosen for their obvious lack of value but failed to catch on as they lacked the perky alliteration with dollars.

Minette van der Bijl

## Letter from the Middle/High School Principal, Susan Boutros

Dear Parents,  
May seems to always be the busiest month of the year. It seems that everyone is counting down the days. Whether finishing elementary school, finishing middle school, freshman year, graduating as seniors, going on a holiday or moving to another country this time of year is exciting for everyone.

The hotter weather and longer evenings can become exhausting as we continue to go to school; however, we can always make the most of this. The weather, and whole summer environment that it brings, usually makes students relax and be a bit more laid back regarding school work. In order to find inner peace as the end of the year slowly comes, one should follow these three tips.

First and foremost, one should keep his focus. Although the weather can give us a sense of relaxation, slacking off in one's schoolwork only ends up making one more stressed when finals come around. For this reason, continue to do your homework and assignments on time. The end of the year will be much less stressful if you maintain your grades now rather than later.

Second, one should get involved. Summertime has so many opportunities for students: swimming, basketball and soccer are just a few examples. Remaining active allows one to practice good time management and create balance within his life.

Finally, enjoy the weather! Living in Sudan can be a great experience. Try to enjoy the hot weather. There are many people living elsewhere who envy you right now for living in a hot country.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in the days to come. Please don't miss our Science Fair on Wednesday, May 20th from 1:30 – 3:00pm. The students are working very hard and we are all looking forward to seeing what they have created.

## Letter from the Early Childhood/Elementary School Principal, Phil Centers

Dear Parents, Students, Teachers, and Community Members,

This week we celebrated Health Week in the Middle School, and I had the privilege of co-teaching—with Mr. Joel Christenson (MS Math teacher)—the 7th and 8th grade boys about how to be healthy as they navigate the sometimes tumultuous waters of the young adult years. Our goal in working with these fine young boys has been to have them come forward from this week with a mature understanding of the changes they are going through, that will allow them to make good choices in this time of their lives that they will be able to feel proud of when they have fully emerged into adulthood.

To accomplish this goal we began each of our Health sessions this week with physical activity, so important for the well-being of our young adults, and more so now than ever before with the staggering number of things that tempt all of us to lead sedentary lives spending hours each day stationary while looking at screens of one sort or another. Mr. Joel and I shared stories of our own challenges and triumphs as young men, and engaged the 7th and 8th grade boys in research, conversation, and discovery about the important health questions they have at this time. The boys were respectful and engaged as we explored the essential aspects of their healthy lifestyle and healthy choices as teenagers.

While the experience was a very satisfying one for me and Mr. Joel, and I believe a positive one for the boys as well, if anything we could have used much more time together, as we were really only able to touch on the core topics in the time we had this week. Still it was a good beginning, and I hope there will be opportunities to continue this work in the future.

## MAP Results

Recently our KAS 3rd through 10th graders successfully completed our first "Measures of Academic Progress" (MAP) session which ran three weeks, from April 19th through May 6th. During this time all grade 3 through 10 students took three assessments—Reading, Language Usage, and Math—the results of which will establish a baseline from which we will be able to measure our students' academic progress against a robust set of international norms in the years to come. In the 2015-2016 school year and beyond we will administer the MAP assessments twice a year, in the autumn and in the spring, to continue gathering valuable data on how our students are progressing in this realm of their development. Now we are eagerly awaiting information from the MAP parent organization, Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), that will complete the process of rendering the results of our students' first MAP assessment session meaningful for all of us. We anticipate receiving this information around June 15. When we return for the new school year in August we will present the information we receive from NWEA, in combination with the results of the first MAP session, to the KAS parents so we are all working with the same assessment data on behalf of our KAS students. If you are permanently leaving Sudan, we will be happy to forward your child's MAP results to you. Please be sure to give us your forwarding email address. Thank you.

Susan Boutros, MS/HS Principal

Phil Centers, ECC/ES Principal



**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MATH PROBLEMS:**

SKIP COUNT BY 25 FROM 0 TO 50

KG

USE THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS TO MAKE TWO- AND THREE-DIGIT NUMBERS:

3 AND 9: WHAT IS THE LARGEST NUMBER YOU CAN MAKE?

GRADE 1

4 AND 1: WHAT IS THE SMALLEST NUMBER YOU CAN MAKE?

6 AND 2 AND 5: WHAT IS THE LARGEST NUMBER YOU CAN MAKE?

WHAT IS THE SMALLEST NUMBER YOU CAN MAKE?

GRADE 2

CREATE A DIVISION/ MULTIPLICATION FACT FAMILY HOUSE FOR THE NUMBERS 5, 6, AND 30

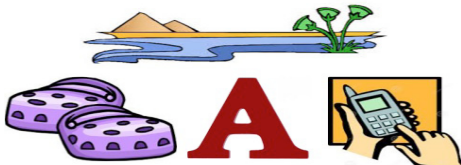


THE EARLY YEARS OF A CHILD ARE ALL ABOUT EXPLORING THEIR ENVIRONMENT AND LEARNING ABOUT THEIR LIKES AND DISLIKES. THIS MONTH WE HAVE BEEN WORKING ON DISCOVERING OUR 5 SENSES. WE HAVE BEEN HEARING, SEEING, TOUCHING, SMELLING, AND TASTING NEW AND EXCITING THINGS. WE FOUND THAT SOME OF US ARE BIG FANS OF SOUR TASTES, WHILE SOME OF US DO NOT LIKE LOUD NOISES. THIS EXPLORATION ALLOWED US TO TRY NEW THINGS AND TO BETTER UNDERSTAND OUR BODIES. FURTHERING OUR EXPLORATION OF OUR BODIES, WE ARE MOVING INTO DRAWING OUR OWN SELF-PORTRAITS. WE ARE DISCOVERING PARTS OF OUR FACE THAT WE TYPICALLY OVERLOOK SUCH AS OUR EYEBROWS, EYELASHES, CHEEKS, AND CHINS. THROUGH LEARNING ABOUT OUR FACES, WE ARE LOOKING INTO OUR OWN EMOTIONS AND UNDERSTANDING THE EMOTIONS OF OTHERS. I AM EXCITED ABOUT THE DISCUSSIONS THAT WILL FOLLOW!

Sarah Boyer  
Early Childhood Teacher



Winners are:  
KG: Leila  
G1: Taemin  
G2: Alan



Middle & High Rebus



Faculty Rebus



**Last week's Answers are!**  
Elem: Karkaday  
MS/HS: Pool Party  
Faculty: Car for Sale, See Mr. Ross

**Last week's WINNERS are!**  
Elem: Cameron gr. 2  
MS/HS: Ahmed Tarig gr. 6  
Faculty: Reem Elashi