



# news

news from the trunk

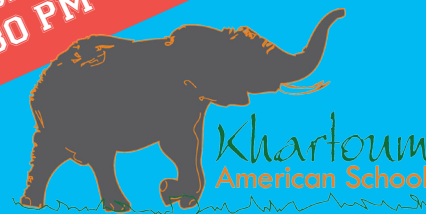
Thursday, August 20th 2015



**WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!**

**OPENING DAYS  
AT KAS  
2015-2016**

**BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT FOR PARENTS  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 26, 2015  
6:30 PM - 8:00 PM**





## *Letter from the Superintendent*

Dear Parents,

The children are settling in nicely as we begin the new school year. They are full of positive energy!

At the opening day school assembly on August 12, I mentioned to the children and parents that our mission at KAS is to foster educational growth and development in all children; and, to move every child to her/his next level of excellence. I mentioned that our school's dedication to internationalism is reflected in our highly diverse school population. We have 30 nationalities represented in our student body and we have several nationalities represented in our expert teaching staff. KAS teachers are the 'front-line education professionals' who will be communicating with you regularly throughout the year regarding your child's progress. If at any time you have a concern, please contact your child's teacher first. If for some reason you are unable to resolve a concern at that level, then you may wish to contact your child's principal. Additional assistance regarding matters related to your child's social and emotional adjustment can also be discussed with our experienced school counselors. KAS has counselors on staff daily at the secondary school level (middle/high school level), and at the elementary school level.

At the opening day assembly I mentioned two broad school initiatives. The first is the '**Keep the KAS Campus Clean and Green**' initiative. We ask that all students be conscious of keeping the campus free of plastic, discarded paper, and trash; and, to always clean up thoroughly after their recess break and lunch break. As parents we request that you reinforce with your child the importance of keeping their beautiful campus clean. The second school-wide initiative is our "**Healthy Life Styles-Healthy Choices**" initiative. In our classes, during activities and sports, on school trips, and in our interaction with fellow classmates and adults at KAS, our attitude is one that promotes making good decisions regarding school rules and procedures, and one that supports respect for each other. As a part of our Healthy Life Styles initiative, I will be offering a series of '**Superintendent's Parent Information Seminars**' conducted by KAS school specialists. The seminars are free. Topics and times will be announced throughout the school year. An example of some of the topics include: 'The Positive Impact on Your Child's Development of Attending an International School-Building Resilience in Children', 'The Nature and Needs of the Middle School, High School and Elementary School Child', 'Children's Literature-Reading and Writing—What You Can Do As Parents to Support Your Child's Literacy Development'. During Back to School Night on August 26 there will also be Superintendent's Parent Seminars that you may wish to attend. They are, 'Standardized Tests and Interpreting Your Child's MAP Assessment Results'; and, 'En-grade and Edmodo-The KAS Virtual School Communication System for Parents, Students and Teachers'. I hope you take advantage of these and future Parent Seminars.

Please place **Back To School Night** on your calendars. It will take place on **Wednesday, August 26 from 6:30-8:00 PM**. **Back To School Night** is an opportunity for you to visit your child's classroom to learn about the expectations for the coming year. It is not the evening set aside to meet individually with your

child's teacher. The date for individual parent-teacher conference day will be sent to you later in the first quarter. Again, however, if you have a concern before then you are welcome to contact your child's teacher to set up an individual appointment.

I wish you a wonderful 2015-2016 school year!

***Dr. Robert Beck***  
***Superintendent***



## ***Letter from the Elementary Principal***

Dear Parents and Community Members,

Welcome to the start of our 2015-2016 school year! We are experiencing a very encouraging beginning of this year's journey of discovery. The school campus, already an oasis of beauty, has seen improvements over the summer, with an upgrade to 5-star bathrooms for the students and staff, and many helpful enhancements to our classrooms and offices. Our world-class faculty has gotten even better with the addition of seven outstanding new staff members, and the returning staff and new hires are working together in a very harmonious way on behalf of the students and families of KAS. Perhaps most importantly, our wonderful students have returned from their summer holiday refreshed and eager to master this year's curriculum. As I'm sure you will agree, it is a pleasure and privilege to be part of such a vibrant learning community.

This year we have two school-wide themes we will be exploring as a community. The first, "Healthy Lifestyles—Healthy Choices," forms a backdrop to all we do at KAS and particularly with our students. We want our students to learn to naturally make healthy choices in their lives which will contribute to a healthy lifestyle we hope they will create for themselves, one that will help them be successful in whatever direction their careers and lives take. Our second school-wide initiative this year is "Keep the KAS Campus Clean and Green." Going "green" and living green is the cool thing to do in the 21st Century, as we search for ways of sustainable living that honor this beautiful planet we call home. What better way to explore "green" than at school where we spend hours together every school day?! Our long-term goal is to create a green campus that can stay green and healthy as generations of students come through KAS. For this to happen we need everyone's help.

Please note on your calendars that our "Back to School Night" will be next Wednesday, August 26 from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Please plan to come to school that evening to meet your child's teachers, and also consider attending that evening this year's first "Superintendent's Parent Information Seminars" (SPIS) which will have as its theme "How to Understand Your Child's MAP Scores" (i.e., from last spring's first ever KAS MAP assessment session). At Back to School Night there will also be seminars available for you on KAS's school-parent communication systems: Engrade for MS/HS parents, and Edmodo for ECC/ES parents. We believe you will find both the seminars very helpful in fostering our parent-school partnership. I look forward to seeing you at our Back to School Night.

***Philip Centers  
ES/EC Principal***

## ***Letter from the Middle and High School Principal***

Dear Parents, Students and Friends,

I would like to welcome you to the 2015- 2016 School Year at Khartoum American School. I hope you have all had an enjoyable summer break. I am delighted to report that we have enjoyed a very positive start to the new academic year. I am extremely pleased with how quickly our students have settled into their classes and I am particularly impressed by the manner that they are conducting themselves and applying themselves to their studies.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome our grade 6 students to the Middle School. It is quite a change from elementary to Middle School and once again, the partnership working with our elementary colleagues, and the commitment of our Middle and High school team, coupled with extremely supportive parents and families has made the students' transition as positive and seamless as possible.

I know I speak for everyone at Khartoum American School when I say that we are here to ensure that all our students have an exciting and productive school year and to help each of our students reach their full potential.

Please know that our doors will always be open to our community. Feel free to call upon us if you should have any questions or concerns. I am looking forward to seeing many of you at Back to School Night, which will take place on August 26 at 6:30pm. You may also visit our website for updated information throughout the year. We know and understand that communication is the key to a successful year.

With my very best wishes for a successful school year.

***Susan Boutros  
HS/MS Principal***

# Great News!

## HOMESCHOOL HELP CENTER

EVERY SUNDAY, MONDAY, AND WEDNESDAY

FROM 3:00 PM TO 3:50 PM

IN THE LIBRARY

STARTING THIS SUNDAY AUGUST 23, 2015





To describe somebody as a **Good** or **Bad Egg** would suggest they were either decent, dependable and reliable or not. The expression 'bad egg' was first used in 1855 in Samuel A Hammett's novel Captain Priest which included the phrase, 'In the language of his class the Perfect Bird generally turns out to be a bad egg.' The analogy he draws is with an egg that on the outside may appear fresh, but when the shell is broken it may be rotten inside. At the beginning of the 20th century students began reversing the phrase and describing decent people as 'good eggs'.

MINETTE VAN DER BIJL

## WE ARE EXCITED TO BE IN KINDERGARTEN!

The holiday is over, and we arrived at school a little nervous and very excited to start our year in Kindergarten. Almost all our friends have arrived back safely. We have been learning the new routines in our class, meeting our new friends and getting to know our teachers Ms. Andurette and Ms. Samhar. We are so excited about everything there is hardly any time to feel sad or scared.

Mom and dad, we thought you might like to know how we can have a successful year in Kindergarten:

- Encourage me to do things for myself. Allow me to choose my clothes and then dress myself in the morning.
- Ask me to take care of my belongings.
- Ask me about my day by asking specific questions for example: "When you were playing outside who did you play with? Or, "Did you draw in class today?" "What colors did you use?" Or, "Why did you choose to draw that picture?"
- Make sure I get enough sleep and that I am ready for school every day.
- Read with me every night.
- Teach me to be responsible for my own actions.
- Don't discuss my school, teacher or friends in front of me. I find it upsetting because I don't understand grown-up discussions.
- If I get homework help me by making time to do it with me.
- ENJOY THIS YEAR WITH ME!

**MS. ANDURETTE AND MS. SAMHAR**

## MINUTE MATH QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### GRADE 1

Q1: WRITE THE NUMBERS 1-30 IN ORDER.

### GRADE 2

Q2: COMPLETE THE NUMBER LINE: \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, 459, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, 462, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_.

