



# news

news from the trunk

Thursday, November 5<sup>th</sup> 2015



## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH



**SUPERINTENDENT'S PARENT INFORMATION SEMINARS**  
Please bring your friends and colleagues from KAS and from outside KAS:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 8:30 - 9:30 AM, KAS LIBRARY

"The Importance of the KAS International School Experience-Building Resilience in Your Child"

Presenter Dr. Rob Beck

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26 8:30 - 9:30 AM, KAS LIBRARY

"Mathematics and the Early Elementary School Years"

Presenter Andruette van der Merwe

**KAS**

**SWIM-A-THON**

**A GREAT**

**SUCCESS!**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to everyone who came out to participate in the 2015 KAS Swim-A-Thon this past weekend (the 'Capri to Napoli' Italy swim contest). A special thank you to Hanro van Der Merwe, KAS Athletic/Activities Director, the PTA, the pool staff, the faculty and parent volunteers who helped make the event a super success. The goal of the Swim-A-Thon was to swim as many laps in total as Ms. Sarah Gadalla, our KAS swim instructor, did during the real Capri to Napoli race when she was a teenager. She represented the country of Sudan many years ago at that 36 kilometer contest, coming in second place. An amazing accomplishment! We are so proud of Mrs. Sarah. She models courage, grace, and tenacity for all of us.

The number of laps completed, and the number of people participating this past weekend, surpassed all expectations. As reported by Hanro van Der Merwe, "...Over 70 swimmers participated swimming an incredible 95 kilometers, the equivalent of 2 and a half times the distance we set as a goal. A total of 3800 lengths which is a fantastic achievement by all..." This was a wonderful individual and cooperative effort. The pool and Aquatics Center are locations on the campus where the KAS Family comes together to enjoy sports and activities including movie nights. Our beautiful campus has been made even more functional and enjoyable (we have an active swim instruction program for students as part of our PE program and swim squad) since the opening of the Aquatics Center approximately 3 years ago.

The pool will be closed for the winter break. It will reopen in the second semester as the outside temperature heats up. When the pool reopens for swimming, I encourage you and your family to continue to be actively involved in KAS Aquatic Center swimming events. The Swim-A-Thon clearly demonstrated that the pool and the Aquatic Center are 'value added' facilities on the campus.

Again, thank you and congratulations to everyone who participated in the 2015 KAS Swim-A-Thon!

Sincerely,

**Dr. Rob Beck**  
Superintendent

## Saying of the week!

“A *Phoney* is regarded as fake, not the genuine article. 'Fainne' (pronounced 'fawnya') is a Gaelic word meaning circle or ring. In the 18th century some Irish gold was not regarded as genuine and by 1811 gold rings from that country were known as 'fawney', which became an English slang word meaning fake. During the 1920s imitation gold rings passed on by American confidence tricksters were also regarded as 'fawney', although their accent led to a corruption and the word became 'phoney'.”

## Minette van der Bijl



### Math Minute Questions and Answers

#### Grade 1

Q:

Make the following number lines with even and odd numbers in different colors:

- by 1s from 0-20;
- by 2s from 0-30;
- by 5s from 0-50.

#### Grade 2

Q:

Draw what a pan balance would look like if one side had a banana that weighs 6 ounces and the other side had bag of flour that weighs 2 pounds.



Dear Parents, Students, and Community Members,

Technology is one of those things in our lives that fit the funny expression, "can't live with it, can't live without it." This saying means that something is, or has become, indispensable for us in our daily living (can't live without it), but at the same time this thing is very difficult to manage, requiring a lot of our time to make it work (can't live with it).

Technology is often like that. We can define technology broadly as "applied science," but in our modern world we often think of technology specifically in terms of electronics, particularly everything having to do with computers (from smart phones to home computers) and their peripheral devices (printers, etc.) and connectivity (networks). The things these technologies enable us to do in our daily lives are so incredible that they have literally changed the modern world. Imagine a world without these technologies! (can't live without them).

Yet these technologies are incredibly complex, and there is so much that can go wrong with trying to make all the parts (computers, peripherals, networks) work seamlessly together! So we, and the technicians we get to help us, spend a fair amount of time setting up and maintaining our technologies so that we can use them in our lives, and sometimes neither we nor our helpers can figure out what has gone wrong that is keeping these technologies from functioning the way they are designed. How frustrating when that happens (can't live with them)!

Here at Khartoum American School we embrace technology with our students in all of its many aspects. This year the Elementary School is reviewing our ICT (information and communications technology) curriculum to make sure that our students are savvy in the use of the electronic technologies they are learning and using every day. Our goal is for our students to be wise practitioners of technology, where they utilize the technology rather than the technology driving them. This is a big task, and we appreciate KAS parents partnering with us to help us accomplish this.

**Phil**  
Elementary/Early Childhood Principal

## Swim-A-Thon 2015 Maratona di Capri - Napoli

What an amazing weekend at KAS Aquatics Center.

Over 70 swimmers participated on Friday, October 30, swimming an incredible 95 kilometers the equivalent of 2 and half times the distance we set as a goal. (A total of 3800 lengths, which is a fantastic achievement by all).

We would like to make a special mention to Maho (7km) and Yula Maruyama (4.95)km -from team Mamayula swimming 12 km. The boys team Tsunami (Mohamed Nazar, Divya Ghetia, Zoltan Turchanyi, Abdalla Abbas, and Bedis Drass) swimming 324 lengths the equivalent of 8.1 km. The event was in honor of Sara Gadalla, our swim coach and famous sudanese swimmer who with her daughter Samhar Bella and her sister Mai Gadalla swam a respectable 150 lengths between the three of them.

Even some of the lifeguards joined in the challenge, and Mohammed Zain Elabdeen swam 148 lengths, and Alsamual swam 192 lengths. We had several students who planned to swim 40 lengths and ended up swimming 80 lengths, extraordinary.

We would like to say a big thank you to the many volunteers who gave up their time whether to sit and count the lengths swam, helped with registration and most importantly helped encourage the swimmers to complete their individual challenge.



**Hanro van der Merwe**  
Athletic Director



## From Our Arabic Language Program Students

“What we like about Arabic class is the teacher, Mr. Ibrahim. He is so cool and funny. He treats us in a special way. We have learned to read and write paragraphs in Arabic. We understand more about Arabic. We like this Arabic class and teacher.”

“He sometimes gives us free time if we're good and finish work earlier or on time. One of us would be the one who would get free time the most. The class would always laugh at his jokes we are his favorite students and basically the top. We always like to do more work.”

“We read and write paragraphs easily. We love it when he asks us to just copy the paragraph and that takes lots of time. We would do reading together. Mr. Ibrahim always corrects us every time we do mistakes.”

Grade 3/4

**Abdelrazig Ibrahim**  
Arabic Teacher



## News From the KAS Math Department

In integrated math, we started the year with numbers and operations, solving equations and inequalities, word problems. Now we are starting to learn about basic geometry. We have learned how to build up our math knowledge and skills, cooperating with others. We even do “peer teaching” by explaining math problems on the board.

10th grade students engage in group activities where they can apply their knowledge and skills to solve real life problems that combine algebra and geometry. Problem solving and teaching for understanding are the focus in integrated math.

### From the students:

“In this class, we learn different math topics. This is a very interesting class where we learn a lot and receive help when needed”.

—Gennayro

“This shows the amount of hard work my classmates put in Ms. Liu’s class. We work hard but also have fun. This is how we do things in integrated math and taking this course definitely makes us stick together as a learning community.”

— Liza Elbarbary

“Integrated math 2 is a place where we can flourish in our task and work together as a class. Math is one of the most important subjects in school, and Ms. Liu’s class is a place where we can build and enhance our math skills.”

— MJ