



# news from the trunk

Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 2016



## Parent-Teacher Conferences at **KAS!**



**FUN FAMILY PICNIC!**  
Friday - March 25

**KAS Science Fair**  
On Wednesday March 30th & Thursday March 31st



Dear our Parents,

Security at KAS—We take security measures very seriously at our school.

Our top priority is to be certain that our children, our staff, our parents, and visitors to the school, are safe while they are on the campus. Toward that end we require that all cars that enter our gate have the proper KAS ID sticker. All drivers and nanny's must have, and show to our security staff when requested, the appropriate KAS ID badge. Parents that are not familiar to our security staff are asked to sign in at the entrance gate even if they are with their children. Guests who come to inquire about admissions or to seek other information are escorted from the main gate by our security staff to the administration office. They are issued a KAS visitor ID. Vendors who wish to meet with administrative staff are also escorted to the administration office by our security guards. Our security staff are on duty 24 hours 7 days per week. They are periodically trained by the US Embassy regional security office. We are in regular communication, and immediate contact when necessary, with the US Embassy security staff. Outside guests are not permitted at the pool area. The aquatic center is strictly for the use of KAS parents and students.

In addition to the above KAS security standard operating procedures, we conduct regular emergency drills for all staff and all students from nursery to grade 12. If visitors or parents are on the campus, they also participate in the emergency drills. The drills include: fire drills, intruder drills, and safe haven drills. Following each drill, the KAS Emergency Response Team that consists of the principals, superintendent, security chief, nurse, counselor, support services coordinator, and the KAS Business Manager, meet to debrief about the drill. We discuss how to improve each drill.

I have been very impressed by how seriously the children, staff and visitors take our emergency drills. We ask that you speak with your child about the need to continue to be cooperative during the drills. Again, they have done an excellent job and they have shown maturity at every drill this year. I also wish to remind parents that from a security perspective, it is essential that your child to be picked up on time immediately when school is over at the end of the day, or when After School Activities (such as sports and clubs) are finished. Unfortunately, there have been times this year when the children are picked up late. This can present a serious security risk for the children. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is for you or your driver to pick up your child on time every day.

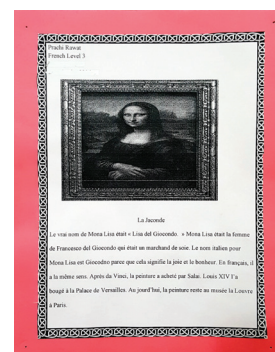
Welcome back student athletes and coaches from the Kenya soccer tournament that was held over the past weekend. Congratulations on your efforts. We are proud of you!

Sincerely,

**Dr. Rob Beck**  
Superintendent

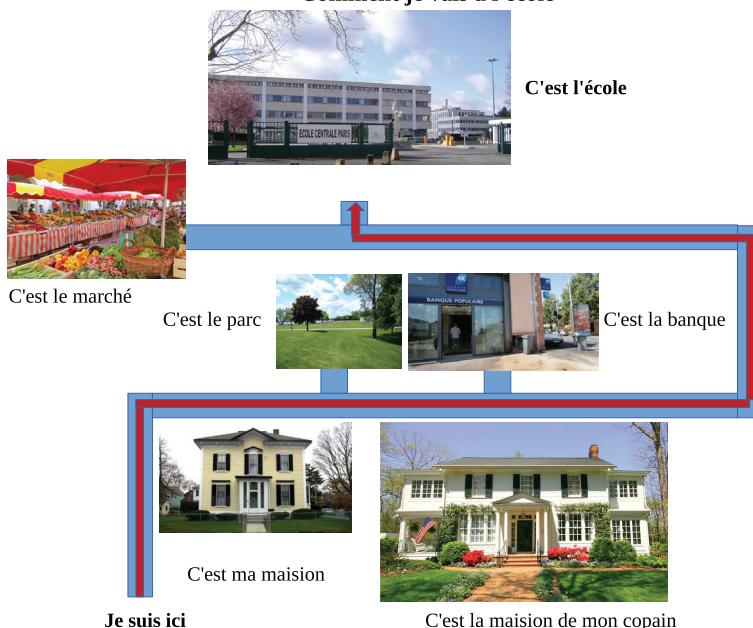
## The Foreign Language Department

It is quite a challenge to teach different levels in French class. This is achieved by grouping students according to their interests or common learning needs. The ultimate goal is to move students progressively toward stronger understanding and, finally, greater independence in the learning process. Voilà! Here a sample of students' work showcasing their learning in the French class.



**Maisa Sarhan**  
French Teacher

### Comment je vais à l'école



Je vais tout droit. Puis, prenez la première rue à droite. Continuez tout droit. Prenez la troisième à gauche. Puis, continuez tout droit. Après, tournez à gauche et continuez tout droit encore une fois. Puis, prenez la première rue à droite. Voilà, c'est l'école.

**Abhinav Lugun**  
Grade 12

Pour aller à l'école

Quand vous sortez de la maison, pour aller à l'école: allez tout droit jusqu' à la fin de la rue, et vous tounez à gauche et continuez tout droit jusqu' à la fin de la rue, puis à gauche et continuez tout droite jusqu' à le feu de circulation. Et vous trounez à droite et tout droite jusqu' à la quatrième feu de circulation. Après le quatrième feu de circulation, la deuxième rue à gauche alors c'est l'école.

**Par Yuga**  
Grade 6

Bonjour, Je m' appelle Anzel, je suis de Afrique du Sud. J'ai vécu au Soudan pendant 3 ans. Les gens ici sont sympas et gentils mais la chaleur est horrible! Je l'aime bien, J'ai quelques bons amis.

**Anzel van der Merwe**  
Grade 8

Dear Parents,

As most of you already know, the middle and high school teachers at Khartoum American School are using Engrade to communicate with students and parents. Engrade is a web-based program that enables teachers to post assignments and grades for parents and students. Teachers also post specific assignment guidelines, as well as give feedback to students.

Engrade allows you to check up on your student's grades, homework and assignments at any time and from any place, using the Internet with your home/work computer, smartphone or tablet. You can also receive and send private messages to your student's teacher. Signing up for Engrade and using it is very quick and easy.

Please note that 1st and 3rd quarter reports cards will not be sent home anymore because grades are updated by teachers on Engrade continuously. An Engrade report was sent home today with your student. We encourage you to continue checking Engrade because assignments and grades are being updated very frequently. We will continue to send home report cards at the end of each semester.

If you have any questions regarding a grade in a class, please contact that specific teacher.

If you have any problems logging onto Engrade, please contact your Ms. Egbal Mohamed, our IT coordinator, and she will be able to assist you.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend!

**Suzan Boutros**

Middle & High School Principal

## Math & Riddle Master

This Week's Winner



Reeda Elmaghrabi  
Grade 4

Talya Elsidiq  
Grade 3

## SAYING OF THE WEEK

To **Get Someone's Goat** means to really irritate and annoy a person. This is an American phrase from the early part of the 20th century. Goats have long been considered to have a calming influence on horses and for this reason were often the stable mates of highly strung race horses, especially while being stabled at an unfamiliar race track. But sometimes a fancied stallion's chance of success would be torpedoed by shady opponents, who would slip into the stable and take the goat away. The result was an irritated and nervy racehorse who performed badly in the race.

**Minette van der Bijl**

High School/Middle School English Department

### ANNOUNCEMENT

**KAS PTA**  
Welcomes you, your family and friends to a  
**FUN FAMILY PICNIC!**  
AT KAS GARDENS WITH **LIVE DJ!**  
FRIDAY - MARCH 25TH, 2016  
3:00 PM - 9:00 PM

**WE WILL PROVIDE:**

- FOOD AND DRINKS
- BAKE SALE ITEMS
- MUSIC/LIVE DJ
- GAMES AND ACTIVITIES
- FACE PAINTING
- PARENTS' TUG-OF-WAR
- TEA AND COFFEE

**COME AND HAVE FUN!**

NOTE: THE POOL WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY THE 25TH

### ANNOUNCEMENT



Be on the look out for **#kasreads** on your instagram. Join the fun and post pictures of you reading. The entire KAS community is encouraged to join. Every month the library will choose the best pictures to be displayed.

# Come to the KAS Science Fair

## A very Special Event!

Hey! Have you heard? The KAS 2016 Science Fair is coming up! You won't want to miss it. It will once again be unlike any KAS Science Fairs of previous years. The fair will be held on March 30th and 31st during school hours (1:30 – 2:45pm) in the Quad. On March 30th, the work of the 6th and 7th graders will be presented, and on March 31st, the work of the 8th and 9th graders will be presented.

This year's Science Fair uses the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals as its framework. Each student chose a problem or issue within one of the 17 goals to focus on. SO some of the science fair projects strive to address social problems while others address scientific problems. For example, many students have an interest in addressing hunger, poverty or education. And others want to develop ways to get clean water to everyone. Because many of the problems may not be able to be solved through science, the students' work will be judged by the quality of their research and driving question, and their comprehensive problem-solving and practical-thinking skills. The fair's goal is to encourage students to realize they CAN make a difference through their good research and understanding of a particular problem, clear thinking, and sensible action now. In 2015 at the AISA March conference in Cape Town, ZA, Ms. Egbal and Ms. Juliane created the new basic format for the Science Fair in their Project-Based-Learning workshop. They decided on three focus topics and outlined the project. Ms. Juliane also incorporated what she had learned in an AISA workshop on teachers and students working together to create the future. The driving question for this year's Science Fair is the result. Each project should answer the question "What can I do now that will make a difference in \_\_\_\_\_ by 2030?" Last year Ms. Juliane gave the students three possible areas of focus: the energy crisis, global warming/climate change, and water issues. This year she chose to allow students to choose any of the 17 UN Goals as a focus. Little did she realize how much the students wanted to address social issues. Thus the fair takes another leap in its development. Perhaps the future of the KAS Science Fair is to become a Solving the World's Problems fair!



### Khartoum American School Science Fair

# Solving Real World Problems

March 30<sup>th</sup> - Grade 6 & 7

March 31<sup>st</sup> - Grade 8 & 9

From 1:30 pm to 2:45 pm at the Quad



To prepare for the fair, every student in the middle school and 9th grade individually researched the issues of three topics they were interested in, chose a main focus, created their own driving question, brainstormed solutions, researched three of their solutions, and created a plan for completing their project. The importance of and how to do each step was discussed. Once each student completed this process, he or she has had the opportunity to work alone, in pairs or groups of three to complete a Science Fair project for extra credit. Students were also encouraged to consider how to incorporate other core subject matter into their projects. Students could apply for extra credit from their Math, Social Studies and Language Arts teachers for subject-related work they did in their Science Fair project.

We were impressed with the students' enthusiasm, thinking and efforts last year and we see the same high level of enthusiasm, thinking and effort again this year. We are impressed with the empathy students have for those in need and their desire to help. We are looking forward to learning about the solutions they have thought of or created.

Everyone is invited to come to the Quad and see the results of this different kind of science fair on March 30th and 31st from 1:30 to 2:45pm.

**Juliane Rothan-Centers**  
MS/HS Science Teacher