



# news

news from the trunk

Thursday, May 24, 2018



 **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Please note that the pool will be closed tomorrow all day for the graduation.**



**The 8th Grade 'Blue Moon' Class Goes to Uganda**



## Superintendent's Message

### Progress work on building Projects at KAS

This summer will be very busy at the KAS campus. Several projects will be started and/or completed before the next school year.

**Cafeteria/Multi-purpose Construction** – We will begin building a new area to move our turtles to within the next few days. This is necessary to begin the cafeteria construction. We have a very nice shaded area not being used that will be the new home of our very important community residents. We hope to have a good start with the cafeteria construction and at this time expect it to be done near the start of the second semester next year.

**Technology Infrastructure** – After students are dismissed on the last day of school, we will begin a major upgrade of our technology infrastructure, new fiber lines, more access points and many other items will be installed to give us much better internet service and capacity. This will greatly enhance learning possibilities for students. This will be finished before the start of the next school year.

**Classroom/Building Renovation** – Besides normal painting and maintenance repairs, we are renovating the Pre-Kindergarten and Pre-School classes. New floors, more space and new bathrooms are all a part of the renovation. Since we have discontinued the Nursery class for next year, this building will be renovated to make three offices. Two for our accountants and an office for our Admissions Director. The renovation will include a comfortable sitting area and space to test new students. This work will be finished before the start of the next school year.

**Increased Generator Electrical Capacity** – Building the new cafeteria/multi-purpose room and the plan to add more new classrooms will require increased electrical need and importantly good generator capacity. We will be moving a generator from a staff apartment building, which is no longer needed there to our campus to give us the adequate backup electrical power we will need.

All of these projects are funded by the school's Capital Budget. If you have any questions and want to know any information, please stop and see me. I will be at school during the whole month of July.

**Steve Alexander**  
KAS Superintendent

## A Proud Teacher!



I am very grateful to my students who made me very proud last week when they exhibited their artwork at KAS and at the American Deputy Chief of Mission's residence. The feedback I received from the guests and the school community was great! I will share with you the note below from our respectful hosts from the US embassy that made my day. Well Done KAS artists and thanks for the administration, teachers and parents for all their support.

Deputy Chief of Mission Ervin J. Massinga and his wife, Dr. Lauryne Massinga, were most honored to have KAS students represented at their Kandaka Pop-Up Lounge, an event at their residence to highlight the work of up and coming artists in Sudan, who have had limited exposure. On a school visit, Dr. Massinga was struck by KAS students' rigorous artistic training, their discipline, and particularly by their ability to talk about their work-- about both the artists who have influenced them, and about the techniques they've learned. She especially loved the fact that the evening's event served as a kind of creative hub with professional artists and KAS students exchanging ideas, inspiring one another, and planning ongoing artistic engagement. Collectively, the Massingas observed that KAS students have many opportunities to embrace their creativity and were most delighted to have provided one more.

**Maie Hassan**  
Art Teacher

### Saying of the Week

If we are not fit to **Hold A Candle** to somebody it means we are not in their league and should not be working in the same place. This phrase is traceable to the day when craftsmen would employ unskilled labor (usually children) to hold candles illuminating their work. Being told one wasn't fit to 'hold the candle' was an insult indeed and usually used as a derogatory term to an inferior craftsman or street entertainer.

**Minette van der Bijl**  
High School English Department

# The 8th Grade 'Blue Moon' Class Goes to Uganda

This year marks the third year the 8th grade class traveled to Uganda as part of their Ecology unit. This trip is organized by Thom Henley of 'In Touch with Nature' and his Bwindi tour operator- Tomas Tumwesigye. We traveled to Queen Elizabeth Park to view lions, elephants, hippos, Cape Buffalo, warthogs, crocodiles, kob and a huge variety of birds as well as see and learn about the Great Rift Valley and trek into the forest to observe chimpanzee families playing. We then traveled to Bwindi to work with the Batwa and finally to Lake Mburu where we saw zebra, leopard and baboons as well as many varieties of ungulates and more birds. This trip gives students field experience and many hands on lessons about the 4 spheres of Ecology (hydrosphere, atmosphere, lithosphere and biosphere) and how they interact and affect each other.

Students not only learn about academic subjects on this trip; they learn a great deal about themselves as young adults and the world beyond family, KAS and Khartoum. They often have experiences (sometimes outside their comfort zone) they would never encounter in a classroom and gain confidence in their ability to meet what life brings their way. They are expected to be responsible for themselves and represent KAS well throughout the trip.

As part of this trip, students have had the opportunity to learn about and work with the Batwa People of Bwindi. The first year students were given the Batwa Cultural Presentation only; they danced for us, told us about their traditional medicines, and demonstrated their fire- making techniques and how to hunt the Dik Dik using a bow and arrow. But last year and this, the students have also done service projects to help the Batwa become independent again. Last year the students raised funds for and helped build a chicken coop. This year the students raised the funds for and helped build a home for a 3 generation family of 5 and helped fund a piggery project to help secure the Batwa's food supply. (All of the students' fundraising efforts were supported by the KAS community. Thank you!)

We were surprised to learn this year that the Batwa consider KAS a primary sponsor of their Empowerment Project. The Batwa are so appreciative of the support and respect KAS offers them the chief presented us with a museum-quality ceremonial mask that was carved by his grandfather in the Congo. This mask will reside in Ms. Boutros' office.

The class this year really touched the Batwa people when they insisted the Batwa sit at our lunch table and served them plates of food. Tomas told us the Batwa people have never been treated with such respect; they are treated as animals by the local tribes and white people often don't want to touch them- considering them dirty. Thom told the students he has never been so proud of a group of students as he was of this year's group for the way they extended true Sudanese courtesy to the Batwa.

KAS now has a permanent place in the Batwa's hearts. Many students this year said they want to go back with their families to work with the Batwa more. KAS teachers are already planning to go to Bwindi during next year's spring break because they want to spend time with and help the Batwa too. (See Charlene Joyce or Ann Crowley- if interested.) I am proud to have been part of a community that embodies its Mission, Values and Purpose so actively and vividly.

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





## Maintaining Global Friendships



Below is an essays from a student in GD 4. The class is maintaining a global connection with a former classmate. The students voted this piece as the best example of information they learned from their former classmate after speaking with him live via FaceTime on Facebook.

**Ann Crowley**  
Grade 4 Teacher

May 21, 2018  
**Aya Imad**

### **Ahmed Aydin**

Ahmed Aydin has been our international friend for the past two years. He went back to his home country Turkey at the end of last school year. Ms. Crowley put us in contact with him on Sunday.

Ahmed goes to a school called Sinaz College. There are 24 students in his classroom. They don't use laptops but they learn how to code. They have lots of homework! They have 10-12 pages for homework, and 19-32 pages for weekends to do!

For the exams, they do it on paper! Their science teacher gave them extra homework because their exams are coming up soon.

We asked him who his best friend was. He said that his name is Mehnethan. We asked him, "Where is he from?" He said that he was also from Turkey. At his school Turkish is the main language. They have some lessons for Spanish once a week, and lessons for English everyday.

These are what sports and games he likes. His favorite sport is tennis and sometimes soccer too. His favorite game is Fortnite. He loves it.

He lives in an apartment that takes him 10 minutes to get to school. School starts at 9:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm. They live in Ankara. Their time is 1 hour ahead of us. That is in the west Turkey. The weather is not hot and not cold and it rains.

These are some personal things. His cute little brother is 3 years old. Ahmed got new glasses and is 9 years old. He goes to school with his friend.

I really loved meeting him again. He changed so much. He told us some things I didn't even know about him! I really hope we do this again!

## Fair of Sciences

Please join me in celebrating the effort of all the students who presented their work in KAS's 2017-2018 Fair of the Sciences.

- Ammar Rashid and Assad Burrell- Improving the Soil at KAS
- Ahmed Omer - Saving Energy at KAS
- Su Yin – Bee Utopia
- Huda and Lina Fadl – Preventing Cholera
- Haneen ElMahdi – Alternatives to Plastic
- Yahia ElMahdi, Mohanad Hamedelnil, Ahmed – Trash to Treasure
- Akash Yadav- Recycled Furniture
- Youssef Moustafa and Hamadelnil Hamadelnil- Recycled Housing for the Poor
- Aisha Ghourwal - Gender Equality

While every 6th – 9th grade student engaged in the inquiry and research process for the Fair, only those who met the criteria and standards during the Peer Review process were invited to participate in the actual Fair. All the students had to answer the Fair question "What can I do now that will make a difference by 2030?" and were asked to prove how their project would make a difference.

During the Fair students, teachers and parents chose their favorite presentation; these students and projects receive this year's PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD.

- Ahmed Omer - Saving Energy at KAS
- Aisha Ghourwal - Gender Equality
- Huda and Lina Fadl – Preventing Cholera

After the Fair, the judges chose the projects which best represented the Fair's overall objectives and demonstrated high quality work. These students and projects receive this year's JUDGE'S CHOICE AWARD.

- Ahmed Omer - Saving Energy at KAS
- Haneen ElMahdi – Alternatives to Plastic
- Huda and Lina Fadl – Preventing Cholera
- Su Yin – Bee Utopia

Finally, I chose one student who demonstrated all the qualities of a fine young scientist- curiosity, insight, good research and data keeping skills, creativity, organization, excellent observation, thinking and communication- not only in her final project but all through the process. Su Yin is sure to be making a positive difference wherever she goes. She receives the YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD.

Congratulations, one and all!

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