

news

news from the trunk

Thursday, November 21, 2013

Meet Ancient

SUDAN



Progress Reports Go Home

Thursday, November 28, 2013



Letter from the Business Manager, Mona Hassan

Dear parents,

One of the many special things about Khartoum American School is the way in which we embrace all members of our community. KAS consists of people from all over the world, with different races, and religions, all living harmoniously together. Our school has more than thirty-eight different nationalities, but we always place special emphasis on our host nation Sudan.

A good example of this was last week Grade 7 and 11 students went camping on a field trip to the Pyramids of Meroe. Not only did they visit the pyramids but for the first time they also visited Elmosawarat and El-Naga'a Temples. Meroe is a town in Northern State, Sudan, near Karima Town, about 330 kilometers north of Khartoum. It is the site of the Meroe Dam project.

There are more than 20 pyramids in Meroe. The Nubian pyramids have no mortuary inside, and the real tomb is dug in the rock below. It is linked to the outside by an inclined tunnel, with the walls decorated by bas-reliefs showing the King's life and the gods. Unfortunately most of the tombs were destroyed by an Italian explorer, Giuseppe Ferlini, who was looking for treasure in the 1820s.

The Naga'a Temples are located 130 kilometers north of Khartoum and 30 kilometers east of the River Nile. The 1st century A.D. Apedemak temple has bas relief decorations with the image of God with a lion head, of the Pharaoh and of the nobles and several ritual images of the Apedemak God.

The Musawwarat site is about 10 kilometers from Naga'a and is similarly dedicated to the Apedemak God who is usually represented by a lion's head on a chap with armour. One temple at Musawwarat was restored by the Germans around 1969.

Our students came back from the trip full of exciting stories, telling everyone about the spectacular experience they had. They learned about the rich history of Sudan. They also enjoyed the outdoor activities like camping out by the sand dunes, watched the sunset and sunrise, took camel rides, had a bonfire under the starry skies and toasted marshmallows.

Grade 7 had a scavenger hunt and the music lovers brought their drums along, danced around the bonfire and played games, all unplugged. This was a laptop free trip. An opportunity rarely found at this time where technology has taken over our daily life.

Seeing and hearing all the stories our students proudly told and watching their eyes dance with excitement as they gave us the details made me wish for nothing more than to go back in time so that I could be a student in KAS to live these adventurous experiences offered by KAS.

I went home that day feeling happy and relieved knowing that we are on the right track.

Have a great weekend.
Mona

Letter from the Principal, Susan Boutros

Dear Parents and Friends,

As usual at Khartoum American School we are extremely busy and very excited about everything that is going on in our outstanding school.

Our Gr. 7 and Gr. 11 students had an amazing trip to Meroe last week. The students and the teachers had a great time and excitingly shared with us that it was a great learning and fun experience for everyone.

Our MUN students are currently attending the 8th KICSMUN Conference at KICS, which is taking place from today until November 23rd. Model United Nations is an academic simulation of the United Nations where students play the role of delegates from different countries and attempt to solve real world issues using the policies and perspectives of their assigned country. Last night our students and teachers attended the Opening Ceremony at KICS and our students are now looking forward to the three full days of debate. The eighth annual Model United Nations Conference is on the topic of "The Role of Humanitarian Action". I am sure that our students are well trained and prepared and that they will do an amazing job.

There will be a Dance for Middle School Students at School today, Thursday, November 21 from 6:00 to 10:00 pm. It is organized by the Middle School Council and the theme is Black and White. As for adult supervision, there will be a number of teachers chaperoning the dance. Tickets have been on sale this week for 15 SDG per student if wearing black and/or white. Otherwise the tickets are on sale for 20 SDG. There will be pizza and refreshments available for sale too. KAS students are allowed to bring two middle school guests. Only guests who have been added to the guest list in advance will be allowed to attend. We kindly ask that drop off and pick up times are within those mentioned above. Also, no students or guests will be allowed entry after 8:00pm.

It is really enjoyable to meet so many parents at our Coffee Mornings on Thursdays. The Elementary children at Khartoum American School regularly share their learning experiences, express their thoughts and feelings and display their talents through regular morning assemblies. Please do drop by in the morning to attend these assemblies.

Best wishes, as always,
Susan Boutros
Principal

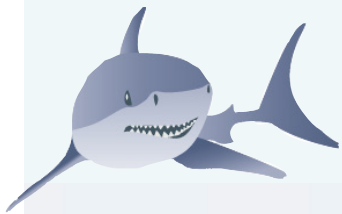
GRADE 4

The power of a name and its value has long been immortalized in prose, poetry, and religious ceremony. Everyone recognizes himself or herself by name. The question is: how does a name influence a person's character? Let us consider what a name is. It is the grouping of several letters of an alphabet, or other symbols, which represent the identification of a person or an object. The grade 4 students decided that their

class name would be

"Cool Sharks"!

The students in Grade 4 have been thinking about their community identity, and they asked questions such as these about their own community:



1. What special events are celebrated in your communities?

Mohanad said, Eid al-Fitr, Neeka said wedding ceremonies and Sara said the ancient Souq exhibits all types of handicrafts,

2. What features of your community make it different from other communities? Why are these features significant?

Aayaan said, "Riad Family Park in Khartoum is a place where families pay a set amount and kids are free, and it is a place where you can spend quality time with your family."

3. They had to imagine that they are on a special committee whose job is to get people to visit their classroom. They had to brainstorm ideas on what might attract people to their community. Yousra said, "we could sell hot chocolate during lunch" Adam said, "we could have a paper jet folding competition." Yabsera said, "we could have a sports day for the students."

4. Why would people want to live in your community?

Syahmi said, "we are friendly," Youssef said, "there are nice parks, and we have the River Nile to enjoy, and there are many ways for families to enjoy themselves."

The "Cool Sharks" are planning their camp that is to be held at school on Wednesday December 4th. Camping Sharks will report back after their camp, so watch this space.

Field Trip to Meroë



Grade 7 and 11 just spent an adventurous night in Meroë! Students ended their study of the ancient Nubian city by exploring the Royal Cemetery in Bagrawiyah and ruins at Naga. Students were eager to take on the role of archaeologists, and with their clipboards ready, they recorded their observations and impressions of the pyramids. Students trekked up and down sand dunes, and many had their first experience riding camels! The trip also allowed students to camp, and enjoy sleeping under the starry sky. All in all, it was a successful trip that would not have been possible without the help of Mr. Mirghani, Ms. Lerma, Ms. Aleli, Mr. Abdul Karim, Mr. Saifelddeen, Mr. Abdul Rasul, Mr. Abubaker, Ms. Mona, Ms. Boutros, Mr. Ross, Mrs. Ross, Mr. Khalid, and Ms. Burwash. We are very grateful for your help in keeping our students safe, happy and inspired by history!

Mrs. Shalash & Ms. Bhuyan



English Sayings...



The Blurb is the curious name given to a short description of a book, movie, or other product written for promotional purposes and appearing on the cover of a book or in an advertisement. Loosely speaking it is a rough, but positive general explanation. The American comedy writer Gelet Burgess invented a comic book in 1907, which featured a Miss Belinda Blurb on the cover. The publication was to be given away at a book festival and Belinda was a parody of the type of artwork often found on the jackets of more serious novels at the time. When later asked what the name meant, Burgess described it as 'self praise and making a noise like a publisher'. A simple example of inspired alliteration, the phrase caught on immediately.

Dear Parents and Teachers,

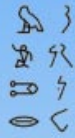
We welcome you and your family to come join the Family Picnic at KAS on Friday, November 29th. The Family Picnic will be just that, a chance for families to unfold a blanket and enjoy the school grounds with other families. This will be an excellent opportunity to have our entire community come together in a relaxed atmosphere.

Available for sale at the school: Hotdogs, Water & Soft Drinks. We look forward to seeing everyone at the Family Picnic and we hope that it lives up to its promise of being great fun for all.



Sincerely,
The PTA Committee

Greetings From Sudan



NEROË



+ Mr. C's Amazing Math Contest



Last Week's Winners

Mohammed, (Pre-K), Alfred (Kindergarten), Joyce (Grade 1), Serene (Grade 2), Sara (Grade 3), Noah (Grade 5), Sukaina (Grade 7)



Mascots are powerful, which is why we at KAS are looking to have our own mascot. There are several advantages to having a mascot.

- Mascots draw the crowd's attention** - Crowds go crazy when they see their favorite mascot running next to the sideline cheering their team. Mascots are noticed. When people see a mascot they are more likely to stop and listen to what he/she/it has to say.
- Increased school spirit awareness** - A good mascot is memorable, and an appealing character can work its way into the public consciousness, it will become an instantly recognizable symbol for the school's sports teams. When you look at "Sharkie the Shark" you immediately think of the Sharks Rugby Team. See Huddles, the 49ers' mascot, and you think of the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. The mascot says it all.
- A friendly image** - Mascots are fun! They are entertaining to watch and send a positive message. A likable character can instantly create a positive spirit within the school.
- Create mass appeal** - A good mascot can appeal to a broad demographic, across many age groups and backgrounds. Mascots appeal to children as well as adults. A mascot can even transcend languages and cultures.



We will soon reveal the identity of our very own school mascot!

Hanro van der Merwe
Athletic Director

Please note: This is my favorite rugby team and not the KAS' mascot.

Elementary School Math problems:

Kindergarten: Complete the pattern: blue-red-yellow-blue red-yellow __, __, __

Grade 1: How many pairs can you make with 21?

Grade 2: What three numbers come next in the pattern? 27, 24, 21, 18, __, __, __

Grade 3: Greg had 30c. Candy cost 3c per piece. How many pieces could he buy? How much change would he get?

Grade 4: True or False? $55 = 10 + (5 \times 7)$

Grade 5: Suppose Aliya weighs 94.2 lb on Earth. If Lisa's weight on Neptune is 1.08 times her weight on Earth, how much would she weigh on Neptune? Please show work.

Middle School Math problem:

If you randomly choose one card from a deck of 52 playing cards, what is the probability that you will pick a 6, 7, or 8?

High School Math problem:

Solve the equation $|x-3|-|x+2|<11$

Solutions from the last week: Kindergarten: 8, 5; **Grade 1:** 17, 13, 3; **Grade 2:** $7+9=16$, $9+7=16$, $16-9=7$, $16-7=9$; **Grade 3:** Perimeter is the distance around the outside of a shape. Area is the space inside the shape; **Grade 4:** 64, 49, 9, 25, 16; **Grade 5:** $14 \times 14 = 196$ muscles; **Middle School:** 15π **High School:** $(x+2)^2-5$;