



NEWS FROM THE TRUNK  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19 2015



NIGHTINGALE PLAY!

**KAS**

PTA Family Picnic on Friday, February 20, 3PM at KAS. See you there!



## Letter from the Superintendent, Dr. Robert Beck

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to all the actors and Ghirmay Andon, play director, for the performance of the Nightingale. A great deal of work went into planning, practicing, and then performing this fun and enjoyable school play. Thank you to the staff and parents who supported the performance by volunteering, and by getting the kids dressed in their costumes. And thank you to the KAS maintenance staff for all they did to make the performance a success. The play was performed two times, Wednesday evening and then again Thursday afternoon. This meant that many many students, parents, and teachers were able to see it.

The Nightingale is an example of a fine arts activity at KAS that builds students' confidence in speaking and performing in front of an audience. Research on child development reports that such 'on stage' performances are important in the development of a child's feelings of positive self-worth, and in the development of their understanding of what it means to persist at a task until it is accomplished. These traits, persistence and feelings of positive self-worth, play a critical role in becoming a successful life-long learner. It is interesting to note that highly successful leaders point to the characteristic of persistence—particularly when faced with repeated frustrating failures and disappointments—as a key variable that led to their success. Persistence at completing a task, no matter how seemingly difficult it is, is something that we reinforce in our daily teaching at KAS.

Bravo, Bravo to all the actors! You persisted and you succeeded.

## Letter from the Middle/High School Principal, Susan Boutros

In April, students from Gr. 3 to 10 will take tests called Measures of Academic Progress® (MAP®). The MAP is a computer-based test. We give students MAP tests to determine your child's instructional level and to measure academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year in the areas of Math, Reading and Language Usage. MAP tests are used worldwide in many International schools. They are unique in that they adapt to be appropriate for the student's level of learning. As a result, each student has the same opportunity to succeed and maintain a positive attitude toward the testing experience. With MAP tests, we can administer relatively short tests and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about your child's growth. The main purpose of the MAP tests is to promote the students' learning. Before we begin the full implementation of MAP in April, we will make sure that students, parents and teachers have all the information needed about the tests. We are truly excited to begin a new era that focuses on every child's individual growth and achievement. We are sure that MAP testing will have a profound positive effect on our students' learning. Have a great weekend!

## Letter from the Early Childhood Center & Elementary School Principal, Phil Centers

Dear Teachers, Parents, Students, and Community Members,

I've been exploring in the E-news the important questions: why, what, and how do we teach our students? Last time I described the challenge of "moving" and "touching" a lesson so that we make it accessible to our kinesthetic learners. While at first the idea of touching and moving a concept may seem hard to imagine, there are numerous ways we can incorporate this into our lessons so that they become truly "multisensory", which is now universally agreed to be a best practice in education. The main thing to begin with is to actually allow yourself, as a teacher, to really entertain the idea. To take it seriously. Once we do that, we will begin to just try things out in (and outside of) our classrooms, to experiment with bringing movement and touch into our lessons. Teachers are amazingly creative, and once they begin to explore incorporating some movement into each lesson, they might be amazed at what they will discover. But nothing will happen if they don't try things out.

Recently I was observing an Elementary School class which was being taught in an extremely effective way. We really do have awesome teachers at KAS! But there was one student I noticed who was not engaging in the lesson, which involved small groups of students moving from one learning center to another. I could tell that this student had a ton of energy, and that containing all that energy into the controlled and small-motor activity the class was doing was driving him a little crazy. A true kinesthetic learner! After getting permission from the teacher, I took this student outside the classroom door to our ES playground, and pointed out an obstacle course I wanted him to run involving the play structure, which included a final stretch running at full speed over to the Music room and then across the stage that had been put up for the performance of the Nightingale and back to me. I told him I was going to time him, looked at my watch, and said "Go!" He took off like the wind, and expertly and swiftly ran through the obstacle course, streaked across the quad to the Music room wall, and then across the stage. When he arrived back to me I shared with him that he had broken a world record. He was winded and very happy. He rejoined his learning group in his classroom, and, his abundant boy energy satisfied, he was able to engage in the focused learning taking place there. This example shows that sometimes the movement we allow our students to engage in doesn't have to be directly reflective of the concepts we are teaching them. It just needs to honor children's and young adult's urgent need to move.

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT' —

After review of the survey results regarding the **SHIFTING OF THE SCHOOL OPENING AND CLOSING HOURS**, the decision is that **KAS classes will start at 8:15 and end at 3:05 for grades kindergarten-12; and, for EC Center children classes will start at 8:15 and end at 12:45.** This is the current arrangement. If you drop your child off before 8:00 (gates will be open at 7:45), please remind the students that they should wait in front of the school administration office (area near the nurses office) until 8 when they can proceed to their classrooms. KAS staff will be monitoring and supervising the children from 7:45-8. We thank everyone for your participation in this survey.

## PTA Family Picnic & Live Reggae Band

Please join us Friday, February 20 for an afternoon and evening of great family fun. The day will be filled with games and activities for children of all ages. The PTA will be Barbequing fresh kofta and shish tawook to be dressed to your liking. Fresh fruit, freshly baked goods and beverages will also be available. The afternoon will conclude with a "Students" vs. "Adults" Basketball Game, which is sure to be a great watch. But wait, the fun doesn't end there. A local Reggae Band will conclude the evening with a Live Concert in the Park! Our senior class will also be present during the event fundraising for their End of Year Senior Trip. They will be holding a Car Wash and Waffle Sale. Come out for a day of great fun for the whole family!



**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY  
25<sup>th</sup>  
10AM-12PM  
STUDENTS IN GRADES  
8-12 WILL DEPART FROM  
SCHOOL AT 9:30AM**



## English Saying

Cockney rhyming slang is responsible for many phrases, and **A Load Of Cobblers** is another of them. These days 'cobblers' means something said is unbelievable or evident nonsense. It is an extension of 'a load of balls', a phrase widely used for centuries in England. A cobbler's awl is a tool used for making lace holes in shoes or boots. In cockney rhyming slang 'balls' became 'cobblers awls', or cobblers. In the Queen's English it means you are talking **codswallop**.

## Bone Experiments in 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

What is the skeletal system composed of? Why do we have bones in our bodies? What is the purpose of our skull? These are questions the fourth grade has been exploring. They started off stripping the meat off chicken bones. When the bones were clean, they observed the bones' flexibility and hardness. We put one bone into a jar filled with vinegar and one bone into a jar filled with milk. After 5 days, what difference will we see? Which bone will be harder and which bone will be more flexible?

The fourth graders read how calcium gives bones strength. They continued studying what each bone in the body is called and what the purpose of it is. They discovered the skeletal system is composed of bones, which do 2 things: they support the body and protect our vital organs. *For example*, our skull protects our brain. So to come back to the fourth grade science experiment, what do you think makes bones stronger? Milk or vinegar? Try it!





## KAS Soccer 2015 Current Scores and Schedules

| KICS       |     | Gr.6/7 Girls    |      |   |              |
|------------|-----|-----------------|------|---|--------------|
| January 26 | KAS | 4               | UHS  | 1 | KISSC League |
|            | KAS | 2               | NVS  | 3 | KISSC League |
|            |     | Gr. 10-12 Girls |      |   |              |
| January 28 | KAS | 1               | KICS | 2 | KISSC League |
|            | KAS | 0               | UHS  | 2 | KISSC League |

| KAS        |     | Gr.3-5 Boys  |      |   |              |
|------------|-----|--------------|------|---|--------------|
| February 2 | KAS | 4            | NVS  | 0 | KISSC League |
|            | KAS | 3            | UHS  | 2 | KISSC League |
|            |     | Gr. 6/7 Boys |      |   |              |
|            | KAS | 1            | KICS | 2 | KISSC League |
|            | KAS | 0            | UHS  | 2 | KISSC League |

| KAS        |     | Gr.10-12 Boys |      |   |              |
|------------|-----|---------------|------|---|--------------|
| February 4 | KAS | 1             | UHS  | 0 | KISSC League |
|            | KAS | 1             | KICS | 0 | KISSC League |
|            |     | Gr. 8/9 Boys  |      |   |              |
|            | KAS | 0             | KICS | 3 | KISSC League |
|            | KAS | 0             | UHS  | 3 | KISSC League |

| KAS         |     | Gr.7-9 Girls    |      |   |              |
|-------------|-----|-----------------|------|---|--------------|
| February 11 | KAS | 0               | NVS  | 3 | KISSC League |
|             | KAS | 1               | KICS | 3 | KISSC League |
|             |     | Gr.10 -12 Girls |      |   |              |
| February 9  | KAS | 0               | KICS | 1 | KISSC League |
|             | KAS | 0               | UHS  | 1 | KISSC League |

| KICS        |     | Gr.10-12 Boys |      |   |              |
|-------------|-----|---------------|------|---|--------------|
| February 16 | KAS | 2             | NVS  | 2 | KISSC League |
|             | KAS | 1             | KICS | 2 | KISSC League |
|             |     | Gr. 8/9 Boys  |      |   |              |
|             | KAS | 5             | NVS  | 8 | KISSC League |
|             | KAS | 4             | UHS  | 4 | KISSC League |

| KICS        |     | Gr.4/5 Boys  |      |   |              |
|-------------|-----|--------------|------|---|--------------|
| February 18 | UHS | 2            | KAS  | 4 | KISSC League |
|             | KAS | 1            | KICS | 0 | KISSC League |
|             |     | Gr. 6/7 Boys |      |   |              |
|             | KAS | 1            | KICS | 2 | KISSC League |
|             | KAS | 0            | NVS  | 3 | KISSC League |

KAS Soccer Boys will be playing at KICS on Saturday, February 21 from 13:00 to 18:00. There will be food and cold beverages on sale at the venue.



### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MATH PROBLEMS:

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| KG                 | MAKE A BAR GRAPH SHOWING 4 ELEPHANTS, 3 ZEBRAS, AND 2 LIONS.              |
| GRADE <sub>1</sub> | DRAW AN ANALOG CLOCK SHOWING THE TIME HALF-PAST 2                         |
| GRADE <sub>2</sub> | WOULD YOU ESTIMATE THE WEIGHT OF A PENCIL TO BE 20 GRAMS OR 20 KILOGRAMS? |



**WINNERS!**  
 KG: Samir  
 G1: David  
 G2: Minatalla



### Elementary Rebus

### Middle & High Rebus



### Faculty Rebus



**Last week's WINNERS are!**  
 Elem: Rana gr. 3  
 MsHs: Aliya gr. 6  
 Faculty: Katee Jo  
**Last week's Answers are!**  
 Elem: Monster's University  
 MSHS: Be my Valentine  
 Faculty: Mentally Checked Out