

# news


news from the trunk

Wednesday, November 20, 2019



## Middle & High School Knowledge Bowl



 **PLEASE NOTE:** Thursday, November 21 will be a long weekend. KAS closes on Wednesday, November 20th at 3:00pm and reopens on Sunday, November 24 at 8:00 am



## Superintendent's Message

Dear KAS Community,

Firstly I wanted to explain why KAS has a long weekend this week. KAS is a member of the Association of International Schools in Africa (AISA) and this weekend is their 50th anniversary conference in South Africa. In order to ensure that faculty members are up to date with best practice internationally the school has sent a number of personnel to this conference. The long weekend helps to minimize disruption to student learning in their absence.

I wanted to also highlight that KAS is fortunate to have the Africa-wide, AISA Blended Learning Coordinator here at the school. Ms. Egbal will be leading a whole day training for other technology coordinators from around the African continent, specifically from US State Department sponsored schools. Not only will Ms. Egbal be facilitating the training, but she will also be learning new ideas to bring back to KAS.

Thank you for your support in ensuring KAS faculty has access to high quality professional development.

Best wishes,

**Bridget Davies**  
KAS Superintendent  
[bdavies@krtams.org](mailto:bdavies@krtams.org)

## Cafeteria

At KAS we are putting plans in place for the new cafeteria. Obviously having the right menu and quality of food is crucial. I am looking for your input on what you would like to be served in the new space. A survey will be sent out early next week through which you can share your thoughts.

Getting student input will be important too, therefore a food committee, made up of students and teachers, will review the information from the survey, as well as give their own opinions.

During the recent Week Without Walls a group of students tackled the issue of establishing a cashless payment system for the new cafeteria. More information about this will come soon.



## KAS UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 21:** Long Weekend

**November 23:** Junior Soccer and Senior Basketball

**November 28:** Gr. 7 and Gr. 11 Meroe trip

**November 28:** Parent Seminar

**November 30:** Junior Soccer and Senior Basketball

**OPEN MIC NIGHT**  
**POETRY & ALL THAT JAZZ**

VENUE: KHARTOUM AMERICAN SCHOOL (KAS)  
TIME: 7:00 TO 9:30

Wednesday 27th November, 2019  
TICKETS: Sold in KAS (Mr. Minettes room)  
OR  
Text +249 900 271 301 to sign up  
EARLY BIRD: 100 SDG  
AT THE DOOR: 150 SDG

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE MAYGOMA ORPHANAGE

**AGE 15 AND ABOVE**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE PARENTS SEMINAR AT KAS**

**College Talk**

Presented by:  
**Ms. Allison Mallory**  
High School College Counselor

| DATE                        | TIME              | LOCATION    |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Thursday, November 28, 2019 | 8:30 am - 9:15 am | KAS Library |

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA: Facebook.com/KhartoumAmericanSchool, k.r.t.a.m.s, @krtams

[www.krtams.org](http://www.krtams.org)

## A Message from the Early Childhood & Elementary Principal

Greeting Khartoum American School family, we are quickly coming to the end of the first semester of school and approaching a time of the year where we show generosity and gratitude. I want to take this opportunity to express how grateful I feel to be part of such a special community of teachers and learners. I am blessed to work beside such talented faculty, staff and students.

Our students are thoughtful, compassionate and curious learners—each student in his or her unique way contributes to what makes KAS an amazing place to be! Thank you for sharing your children with us. We are fortunate to be part of their journey through life.

Our parents show us generosity by devoting time, talent and resources to supporting our work with our students! Whether it is through volunteering at school events, donating talent and money to projects around the school, serving on the PTA or being a member of the Board, your support sustains and lifts us each day! Your kind gestures of appreciation re-energize us—thank you.

Our teachers here at KAS are second to none and spend countless hours preparing and implementing quality learning activities for the students. They spend their own personal time outside of the classrooms coaching, going on field trips and sponsoring afterschool clubs. It is a joy to be part of a special team.

I would like to finish by talking about the cause and effect relationship between giving, receiving and being thankful. Instead of looking at gratitude only as something that stems from receiving a gift, we can also see giving as the product of having a grateful heart. Giving brings about gratitude, and gratitude brings about giving. I ask everyone to participate in the spirit of the season by letting your own appreciation of what you have been given move you to give to those who are less fortunate.

"At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us." -Albert Schweitzer

**Jeremy Albright**

Early Childhood & Elementary Principal

## Week Without Walls E-Payment Project



KAS planned three days of Week Without Walls that allowed for students to get in touch with Sudan and take on projects that allow students to develop skills such as teamwork, creativity, and planning.

For Week Without Walls our group, E-Payment, took on the goal of introducing cash cards as a new payment system to our school. KAS wants to find a safe and reliable way for students and staff to pay for lunches on a daily basis, hopefully through the implementation of a customizable KAS cash card that can be used in other stores in Sudan. The E-Payment group worked with Electronic Banking Services (EBS) to teach us more about how the process of using an E-Payment system functions in general.

On the first day, EBS gave a briefing at KAS and taught us how their system works, including the different possibilities of E-Payment. The following day we went to the Central Bank of Sudan and visited the EBS section, where we saw their departments, from Support Services to Card Printing and more. This gave us a clear understanding of what is possible to be implemented at KAS.

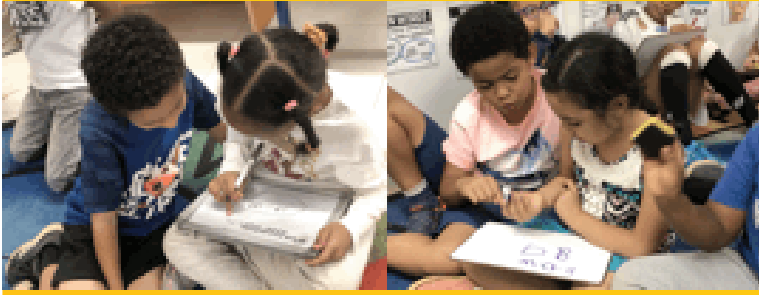
Our objective is to have a Point of Sale system in our new cafeteria. Such a system will have several machines where KAS students can use their personal payment cards to purchase food items. Parents will be able to transfer money to students' cash cards directly from their bank accounts through bank transfers, SMS, or a specialized mobile app.

We are hoping that this new system will allow students to be in touch with new technological advancements that are not only modernizing Sudan, but are also prevalent throughout the world. It is very important for students to learn about these new advancements and how to safely use them, especially seniors leaving for universities where cash cards are the predominant payment system. Teaching the younger students is also important as these new concepts will be implemented as they get older.



**Egbal Mohamed**  
Technology Coordinator

# WHAT'S ALL THAT NOISE ABOUT IN GRADE 2?



As you may or may not be aware, our new teacher Ms. Phyll has recently arrived to lead our grade 2 class. Since her arrival, we have been working on developing our collaboration skills through working collaboratively with our peers. We work in collaborative groups in all areas of the curriculum.

What is collaborative learning?

Collaborative learning is when peers work together to solve problems and develop certain skill sets. This may happen when working with partners, small groups or larger groups.

Why are we focusing on collaborative learning?

Research from Cornell University in the US shows that learning that is social, active, engaging and student-owned leads to deeper understandings of the concepts explored. Other benefits include:

- Development of higher-level thinking, oral communication, self-management, and leadership skills.
- Increase in student self-esteem and responsibility.
- Exposure to and an increase in understanding of diverse perspectives.
- Preparation for real life social and employment situations.

What does collaborative learning look like in Grade 2?

We spend time working with partners and small groups during language, math and discovery. These groups change on a daily basis. Sometimes we choose our own groups and sometimes Ms. Phyll or Ms. Reem puts us into groups.

We spend a lot of time discussing the concepts we are learning about with our teams. This week we worked with groups during language class to identify digraphs in words, during math when exchanging one 100 for ten 10s, and during discovery, exploring what our teeth do to aid digestion.

We balance our collaborative learning with independent learning and whole-class learning experiences.

Check out these photos of what collaborative learning looks like in our classroom!



**Patricia Phyll**  
Grade 2 Teacher



Kindergarten

**what are your five senses?**

Grade 1

**On a farm a kid is a baby what?**

Grade 2

**Which part of the body stores urine?**

Grade 3

**Daisy napped from 10:15am to 10:54am. How long was Daisy's nap time?**

Grade 4

**What body organ works with your heart to supply your body with oxygen?**

Grade 5

**What are the 3 steps to conflict resolution?**

**Write your answer, your name and your grade on a paper and put it on the Quizmasters Box in the front office by Monday. The winner will be selected and announced on Thursday's morning assembly.**

**Good luck!**

## Saying of the Week

The **Apple Of One's Eye** is somebody (usually a child) who is regarded as precious and irreplaceable. Over a thousand years ago, the pupil of the eye was known as the 'apple'. The modern word, pupil, is Latin and did not form part of the English language until the 1500s. Sight was regarded as the most valued of all the senses and therefore the 'apple' was precious and irreplaceable. King Alfred, in the late ninth century, actually inked the two and applied it to somebody he was affectionate towards, but it is not known who. The first recorded reference is in the Bible: Deuteronomy 32:10 says, 'He kept him as the apple of his eye,' suggesting he watched over him to ensure his safety.

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