



# news

news from the trunk

Thursday, January 16, 2020



**CINDERELLA - MIDDLE SCHOOL PERFORMANCE**

## Superintendent's Message

Dear KAS Community,

Firstly let me take this opportunity wish you a peaceful 2020.

I would also like to thank you for your support on Tuesday as we kept your children safe at school. Also yesterday, as we made the decision to close the school, if you did not receive an SMS from KAS yesterday, please contact the school to update your mobile number on Classe.

The school continues to closely monitor the security situation, via local staff members as well as with support from the Regional Security Officer at the US Embassy. Please know that the decision to close school is not taken lightly and is always based on the best interests of students. If you have any questions about KAS' security protocols please do get in touch with me.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Best wishes,

**Bridget Davies**

KAS Superintendent

[bdavies@krtams.org](mailto:bdavies@krtams.org)

### KAS UPCOMING EVENTS

**January 19:** THIMUN Conference in Qatar

**January 22:** Board Meeting

**January 23:** Parent Seminar - Is it mean, Is it rude, Is it bullying?

**January 25:** Middle School Basketball (Boys at KICS, Girls at KAS)

**January 29:** MS/HS 4Cs Awards

**January 29:** WWW Celebration

## DRESS CODE

KAS does not have a required uniform. Instead, our "dress code" is supported by research that shows that students feel safer, perform better academically, enjoy higher self-esteem and display greater respect for other cultures and their environments when they are dressed appropriately for a school setting. One goal of the school program is to teach discernment of dress and behavior, and by working together to ensure adherence to our dress code at KAS, parents, teachers and students will be serving the welfare of all members of our community. By emphasizing safety, neatness and consideration of others in dress and grooming, we as educators and learners can build self-esteem, sustain self-discipline, and help everyone focus on learning.

### Good Choices:

- Clean jeans or trousers/pants that fit.
- Shorts, skirts, or dresses that extend to the knee
- Athletic or casual shoes and sandals.
- A brimmed hat for the sun that can be removed in class
- When participating in play and sport suitable footwear must be worn at all time

### Unacceptable dress:

- Anything on the student or part of the student that distracts from the educational process.
- Slides, clogs and flip flops
- Headwear in class, apart from Hijab and religious attire
- Clothing and jewelry must not contain statements or insignia of questionable taste or that people from other cultures might find offensive (e.g. racist symbols, crude gestures, or offensive wording)
- Clothing that is too tight, too short, or too revealing.
- Sleeveless shirts that show undergarments or lots of bare skin.
- The shirt and pants must overlap: midriff should not be visible with normal posture and movement
- Ripped jeans

## Letter from the Middle & High School Principal

Dear KAS Family,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer. I also hope you are relaxed, recharged and ready for the second semester. I am so delighted that we are all part of an amazing learning community and I look forward to working with you and your children this semester. Our students are settling well in their second semester classes and new high school electives.

Semester 1 report cards will be posted on Classe on Thursday, January 23, 2020. Parents, please make sure that you talk to your child about his or her report card. Throughout your conversation with your child about their report, remember to look for the positives: your child's strengths and the progress they're making. Please do talk about what might help them in areas they are doing well in, as well as those they are finding challenging. Help them set goals for themselves.

You are all invited to our Week Without Walls Celebration and 4Cs Awards Assembly for Middle and High School on Wednesday, January 29th at 8:00 am in the quad. Please come and celebrate with our students their success.

By working together, I know we will make this semester one of growth and achievement for all children.

With best wishes for a successful second semester and a happy 2020!

**Susan Boutros**  
Middle & High School Principal

## First Alumni Mixer At KAS

Having a good relationship with alumni is very important, as these are the people who go out into the world and spread the word about a school.

KAS wanted to express its appreciation and acknowledge its alumni, by hosting a mixer during the winter break, when the majority of people who responded to our emails, said they would be travelling to Khartoum.

At the event, alumni received passes to our sports facilities, to let them know they are always welcome back at their school, as well as KAS stickers, so they can display school pride, wherever they are in the world.

So on Monday, 23rd of December 2019, KAS alumni, Grade 12, ex- and current faculty congregated by the pool for the first KAS alumni mixer.

The atmosphere was relaxed and joyous as people mingled, while images of KAS events from previous years scrolled on the projector. There were lots of instances of surprise, recognition, greetings and catching up, as people ran into their schoolmates, students and teachers from the past.

Thanks to the help of the maintenance team, volunteers from grade 12, Ms. Egbal, for setting up iPads for alumni to register, and Ms. Bridget for suggesting the idea, the event was a success, and the alumni who attended were very excited and grateful to the school for organizing it.

We have now created a mailing list, which will allow us to share any important KAS news with our alumni as well.

(Alumni wishing to be added to the alumni mailing list, may visit [krtams.org](http://krtams.org) under the Admissions tab, go to Our success stories and click on Alumni Registration Form).

On a personal level what I witnessed, during the preparation process, in my correspondence with alumni, and at the mixer, was loyalty and the sense of nostalgia, as the students went down memory lane and fondly remembered their days at Khartoum American School.



**Sara Abugarga**  
Admissions Director

# CINDERELLA

Drama class is great fun for everyone and beneficial as well! Drama builds the students' confidence and encourages them to cooperate. In a drama class students learn to be creative and develop their communicating skills.

Last semester the middle school exploratory class presented "Cinderella". Students worked hard to write and learn their own script, design and make the stage décor and all the props needed. It was a very valuable experience for everyone in this class.

Here are some of the comments that the students wrote about this experience:

"I enjoyed working with my classmates and spending time with them" **Duha gr.8**

"At first when we started rehearsing, I thought that it was not gonna work, because everyone kept messing up. The other students were getting together two days before the play, but I was embarrassed and I wasn't getting along because we changed the scene two days before the play. When it was the day of the play, I was confident in front of all the kids that laughed on one of the scenes". **Hassan gr.7**

"I really enjoyed doing the play, spending time with fellow actors and actresses. I was for sure one of the best moments of my life. It was so fun and I would love to do it again." **Natalie gr.8**

"I mostly liked while we were doing the props because from it I learned how to make props. It was really fun because we used different materials." **Viola gr.6**

"This is my first time to join a drama club. At first, I thought it would be boring, but when I saw how it goes, I like it. My favorite part is the props and the practice." **Hanadi gr.7**

"I liked how we were all working as a group, we got along and helped each other." **Leena gr.8**

"I really enjoyed practicing and making the props. I really enjoyed making and being in charge of the music. I loved that we actually did well and remembered all our lines and I got the music right on the cue. I think that we did way better than when we did it in practice. I think that I learnt a lot from this play like how to stand on stage and how to act. I did not even know that I was not bad at acting. I have never acted in my entire life and this was a really fun and enjoyable way for me to learn. This was the most fun I had learning, I would definitely join again if there was another drama club production." **Amro gr.7**



**Sally Boktor**  
MS EAL/English Teacher

## Spend Time with Your Kids

With the days getting very busy and fast-paced, parents hardly get a chance to spend time with their kids, especially during workdays. It is worth remembering, though, that any minute spent with family counts. Not only does it show kids that their parents care about them, but it also helps building strong bonds between the family members. As children grow, it is extremely important for parents to be aware of things happening in their lives in order to be able to guide them to the right path. Family time is also a chance to acquire values and learn from parents' experiences. So, it is essential, however busy you are, to dedicate some time to your children. During workdays, you can read a bedtime story, or watch TV together. On weekends, you can get together, cook, listen to music, play games, take a walk, or plan trips and picnics.

Always remember, it is the little things that count. Kids do not only need gifts and toys. Kids need YOU!

**Ms. Alaa Zaki**  
Elementary Student Support Services

### Saying of the Week

Modern English speakers use the phrase "**crocodile tears**" to describe a display of superficial or false sorrow, but the saying actually derives from a medieval belief that crocodiles shed tears of sadness while they killed and consumed their prey. The myth dates back as far as the 14th century and comes from a book called "The Travels of Sir John Mandeville." Wildly popular upon its release, the tome recounts a brave knight's adventures during his supposed travels through Asia. Among its many fabrications, the book includes a description of crocodiles that notes, "These serpents slay men, and eat them weeping, and they have no tongue." While factually inaccurate, Mandeville's account of weeping reptiles later found its way into the works of Shakespeare, and "crocodile tears" became an idiom as early as the 16th century.

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