



# news

news from the trunk

Thursday, October 24, 2019

**Khartoum American School Students'**

# Halloween

## CARNIVAL

**Thursday, October 31st**

**12:40 pm - 3:00 pm**

**COME JOIN US AND ENJOY THE FUN CARNIVAL ACTIVITIES!**

Water Bucket Relay

Soccer Bowling

Haunted House

Face Painting

Dead Weight Game

Pie the Principal

Feed the Pumpkin

Skeleton Puzzle

**AND MANY MORE GAMES!**

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## Superintendent's Message



Dear KAS Community,

I want to take this opportunity to draw your attention to the importance of the KAS Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Its role is to further the sense of community within the school by running events and supporting student projects.

Over the previous few years the PTA has funded a range of projects to add value to our students' experience here at school. These range from soccer uniforms for teams to the new playground for the pre-school classes, and many more besides.

The PTA also reach out to the wider community through initiatives such as supporting a local school for children with learning needs.

The PTA is currently coming up with their events for the year and are looking for new members to join this important organization. If you would like any more information, please do contact me or the teacher representatives Sara Abugarga ([saburgarga@krtams.org](mailto:saburgarga@krtams.org)) and Mahfooz Fakeeh ([mfakeeh@krtams.org](mailto:mfakeeh@krtams.org)).

KAS is certainly a better school due to the work of the PTA, please do consider being a part of it.

Best wishes,

**Bridget Davies**  
KAS Superintendent

## Nile Book Awards



The Nile Book Awards is a program that makes reading, learning and competing a fun activity for all. We have a total of 8 books that are to be read throughout the school year, four for each grade. The grades are split into teams: grades 2 & 3, the Blue Niles, and grades 4 & 5, the White Niles.

Through this program students have the opportunity not only to read and rate their books, but to then compete against each other and possibly with other schools in fun activities such as the Battle of the Books (BOB), using the same books that have been chosen for the NBA. These books have been chosen by all school librarians of the African International Schools Association (AISA).

KAS will be one of the many schools in the region taking part in the Nile Book Awards. Some other schools include:

International Community School of Addis (ICSA)

Bingham Academy Addis

International School Of Kenya (ISK)

International School Of Uganda (ISU)

American International School Lusaka (AISL) Zambia

International School of Tanganyika (IST) Dar es Salam, Tanzania

Khartoum International Community School (KICS)

We are set to compete in the Nile Book Awards (NBA)! The books have arrived and have been cataloged, labelled and are ready for check-outs. Hopefully we will start giving the books out next Sunday, October 27, after receiving all the signed forms from parents.

**Please encourage your child to participate in these wonderful reads and to vote for their favorite books.**

**Shireen Shiber**  
Librarian



## A Message from the Early Childhood & Elementary Principal

At every playground around the world children are learning how to interact and socialize with people they share interests with, and how to handle being around people they don't get along with. It is a learning experience that takes people a lifetime to perfect. Here at Khartoum American School, we believe in providing students with tools and strategies to manage their interactions with others in a positive way. We also stand by our commitment to providing a safe and friendly environment for all people in the KAS community.

Within this last month of school the elementary team has committed to providing a positive behavior intervention system to monitor and correct student behavior on the playground during recess and lunch. Creating this system has been a process that has involved many steps. The first step was to recognize the behaviors that needed to be corrected and to examine ways to address those behaviors. As a team, we all agreed that we need to be taking a role in active supervision, taking time to walk around and interact with the students during these break times and to enforce playground rules fairly and consistently.

To do this, as a team we all agreed on general playground rules that can be seen in each classroom and are reviewed before heading out to recess and lunch. The team also agreed on specific playground equipment rules. The playground was divided into four areas, and rules for each area were created. We then needed to present these rules to the students. The middle and high school student council representatives presented these rules to the students with small presentations at each area of the playground. The elementary students were also taught the consequences of not being able to follow the rules at this time.

The next step for the team is to find a way to promote the positive behaviors that we see in the classrooms and on the playground. The team collaborated and came up with a "Gotcha" certificate. This certificate is given to students when they are "caught" with behaviors that support Khartoum American School's 4 C's. When the students receive their certificates they bring them to the principal to be recognized and placed into the "Gotcha" box. At the end of each month a student's name will be drawn from this box and that student will receive a gift certificate to the KAS Trunk store.

Creating this system is an on-going process with more steps to come. In the coming months, working with the elementary counselor, we will be developing a peer mediator program. This will allow older elementary students the chance to help younger students solve problems and build relationships. As an elementary team we are dedicated to creating an environment where all people feel welcomed and safe.

"Collaboration is everything from getting along with others to controlling your impulses so you can get along and not kick someone else off the swing. It's building a community and experiencing diversity and culture. Everything we do, in the classroom or at home, has to be built on that foundation." - Kathy Hirsh-Pasek

**Jeremy Albright**

Early Childhood & Elementary Principal

## Halloween at the Library

Everyone at KAS knows that when a holiday comes around, the library will let them know about it first, from the bulletin boards to the books on display, and all the crazy and fun decorations. The library team always aims to incorporate the 4 C's within the theme that is celebrated.

As it is October, the current theme is Halloween and the library is looking "fang-tastic"! It did not come together easily, though. The KAS community helped to create the spooky environment. Students would come in at lunch and volunteer to help with the decorations, and different staff members also contributed through suggestions and execution.

The students have been excited to read some of the scary books that are on display, and that encouraged them to borrow more books. The lovely themed bookmarks have always been very popular amongst students and teachers, and whenever they take a book home they are given a chance to take one. During the elementary library classes, we make sure to tell the students the background of the holiday, as well as give them a fun scare throughout reading and activity time. Pass by our library and get a good scare!



**Lina Mutasim**  
Library Teaching Assistant

# The Diligent Coach



With weekly practices on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3pm to 4pm, it must be tiring to coach for 3 hours a week! All jokes aside, Coach J is a hardworking, dedicated and focused coach. He always comes to practice ready with a good attitude, whistle and a healthy snack (salad) in hand. Coach J always comes to practice no matter what his schedule states, including Tuesday Teacher Meetings. Coach J has a simple, yet honest philosophy on discipline: "If you don't swim, you don't get better". I believe that this philosophy is quite simple, yet it does work. Sometimes all it takes is a simple philosophy to get the team working together. All Coach J wants is for his swimmers to get better, both in the pool and personally. There are many reasons why I enjoy going to swim practice. One reason is to be able to practice together with my friends but also to be coached by Coach J.

What makes swim practice most enjoyable is Coach J's humor. His most famous saying is "last one to change will do butterfly next class". I feel that with this sense of humor, it makes the swimmers more willing to stay after school to swim. Even after very hard and tiring practices, Coach J knows a way to make you smile so you don't feel too bad while going home. Many people may think Coach J is too funny and cannot get the children under control. I feel like it is the total opposite. I personally think that Coach J knows each child personally and it helps when he needs to deal with them. By knowing each child's personality, he can have a proper conversation with each child in his or her own way. This helps us because it shows that there is someone who truly cares about us. Coach J also knows his limits. He might be hilarious, but he knows when a swimmer has crossed the limit either in behavior or in swimming itself. He will start with a small joke and warning, and after several warnings a swimmer will get punishments according to their actions. I find this beneficial as each child is different and if Coach J handles each child the exact same way, nothing would work properly. All around, Coach J is a great swim coach with qualities and traits that would fit for any coaching position. The reason why he joined the swim team is for Dubai – which might not be the most fitting response but, at least he has a target and goal in mind.

**Caspia Nadapdap**  
Grade 8 Student



## Science Week!

### KG-1

Which sort of animal has feathers?

### 2-3

What is the boiling temperature for water?

### 4-5

What gas do plants breathe in when they produce photosynthesis?

**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

**Money For Old Rope** is simple to explain. In days long gone, when the tall ships returned to their ports, some sailors were allowed to claim old rigging damaged during the voyage. Although of no use to the ships needing long undamaged lines for their sails, parts would still be in good condition and sought after by local traders. Sailors profited by selling it on and, as no effort was required on their part (it was regarded as a perk amongst senior shipmen), some jealousy occurred. The chosen few were criticized for making 'money out of old rope'. These days estate agents have replaced favored crewmen.

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