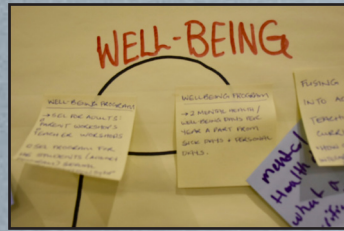


news



News from the trunk!
Monday November 14th, 2022



Simon Gillespie from International School of Uganda has been working with the KAS Board (Friday) and community (Saturday and Sunday) on strategic planning.



VS.



Unity High School

Khartoum American School

Letter from the Superintendent, Bridget Davies

Dear KAS Community,

During this weekend Simon Gillespie from International School of Uganda has been working with the KAS Board (Friday) and community (Saturday and Sunday) on strategic planning. Please see his message below.

Thank you for completing the survey and attending the community day. As always, we appreciate your input and opinions as we work to further improve KAS.

Kind regards,
Bridget

Khartoum American School has committed this school year to creating a new strategic plan to guide the next steps with the growth and development of KAS. This has been a great opportunity to engage the whole community in reflecting on where KAS is at now, and then big idea thinking to lay the groundwork for a path forward to help KAS achieve its vision embedded in the 4 C's and to live the mission.

In September a Strategic Planning Task Force (SPTF) was created with 15 members of the KAS community representing the different stakeholder groups (students, parents, teachers, staff, board and leadership). The SPTF has been learning about what strategic planning is and putting a process together to collect and analyze feedback working towards the creation of a new strategic plan. KAS engaged with a consultant - Simon Gillespie, currently the Head of School at International School Uganda, who has facilitated the process. A questionnaire was sent to all community members in October with 95 people participating. On Saturday November 12 a community event took place led by a group of 5 KAS students. There were 30 members of the KAS community in attendance. The students led the participants through a series of activities to help them understand what strategic planning is and then to generate ideas through a process of inquiry and collaboration.

There are four key strategic areas that are emerging related to the development of a quality educational program, nurturing teacher support and growth, facilities development to support student learning, and community engagement. These will be further unpacked with rationale, outcomes, key action, indicators and a timeline for implementation. The draft of the plan will be presented to the KAS board for feedback and final approval.

Engaging students in the process has elevated not only the ideas generated, but demonstrated the skills our students have as facilitators, when we involve them and give them opportunities they rise to the challenge. Mohamed (grade 12), Ismail (grade 11), Nagi (grade 11), Lujain (grade 10), and David (grade 10) spent time with the consultant to work on their skills as a facilitator and then to go through a script for the day. They then guided the participants throughout the day. Feedback given to the students was that they acted professionally, engaged everyone in deep conversation, and ensured that participants were comfortable in sharing their ideas.

In the coming months more will be shared with the KAS community as the strategic areas are further developed and decided on. We appreciate the participation of those involved in creating an exciting and sustainable future for Khartoum American School.

Simon Gillespie,
Head of School, International School of Uganda

Letter from the Principal, Bruce Doig

Hello KAS Community!

We are now at the end of our second week of November and a lot is happening at KAS. Our HS Boys' football team lost a squeaker of a game against Unity, on golden goals, losing 2-1. Our MUN - Model United Nations - group is getting ready for their first MUN Conference this week from November 13 to the 17th. Our grade 7 and 11 students are getting ready for an historical field trip coming up in two weeks and the KAS Swim Team is getting ready for its second Swim Gala of the season.

Add in to that the nearly completed Strategic Planning process, facilitated by Simon Gillespie, Director at International School of Uganda, with sessions led by our very own student group of Mohammed ElMubarak, Ismail Kayani, Naji Hash, David Faragalla, and Lujain Fadi, and you can see it is busy at KAS! Speaking of student led activities, last week saw our HS-MS Student Council arrange assemblies for November for our 6-8 and 9-12 students, complete with house games and birthday pencils and book markers. Student agency is alive and well at KAS.

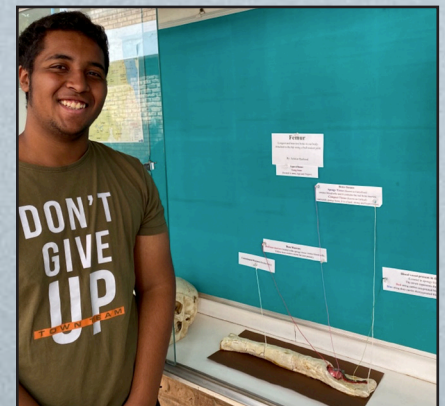
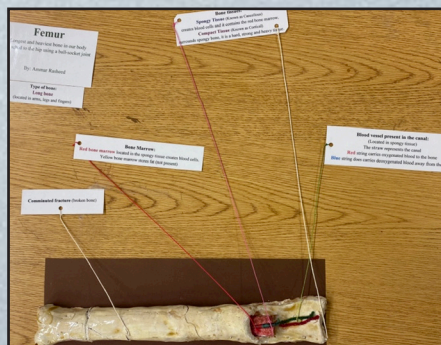
Later this week is also our ES Thursday Assembly, which takes place Thursday, November 17 and features Kindergarten, grade 2 and grade 4 students presenting their learning. We hope to see parents from those grades on Thursday morning at 8:00 AM!

Skeletal System

During the first quarter of the school year, Learning Support Biology covered the Skeletal System. Lessons built from identifying the types of bones, bone cells, types of tissues, and bone density, to then exploring their expansion throughout the human development stages. Lessons then progressed to identifying the types of fractures, followed by their causes and bone repair. The final step was in understanding how the environment and diet impact bone development.

By the end of the unit, the student was assigned the task of creating a model of the human bone, 'femur' (thigh bone). The student created a wonderful display along explanations of the functions of the various segments within the femur.

Sara Bakri
Learning Support Assistant



News from the Music Room

High School Elective have been playing music from across the centuries this year, including Beethoven's Fur Elise, the world's most famous song, Happy Birthday, and the 'Football World Cup Qatar 2022' theme song, with all in between!

Students have been discovering that many hit songs only use the same 4 chords, and spend much of their creative time and energy studying and performing a selection of them.

Piano is the main instrument of choice in the HS Elective group, but all music students are encouraged to develop musical skills on EVERY available instrument. Thus there have been creative 'playalongs' and 'singalongs' using piano, xylophone, glockenspiel, percussion, guitar, ukulele, drum kit, African drums and tenor saxophone, with Mrs Allie joining in on flute, piano and alto sax too.

Students perform solos, duets, and as a whole ensemble, while developing their instrumental technique, listening skills and note reading. It is not always easy, and regular daily practice is required to sound cool on an instrument, a challenge which has been accepted and even exceeded by this year's HS Elective band of young musicians.

Between now and the end of term there will be music ringing around the campus from these students, so stop and listen to them, and get inspired to make your own music.

Here are the musicians showing off their skill in the music room.

Ms. Allie
Music Teacher



Saying

The figurative expression **'young Turks'** meaning 'the new breed, impatient for change' began to be used in the early 20th century. Winston Churchill used the phrase **Young Turks** during the Bermuda Conference of 1953. The American President, Dwight Eisenhower, disagreed with a portion of the Prime Minister's argument expressing Churchill's doubts about the wisdom of self-government for peoples not yet ready for it. Churchill smiled and said: "You're just like the **Young Turks** in my government." From 1789 to 1807 Selim III, Sultan of the Ottoman Empire, made attempts to modernize the army along European lines and to rejuvenate the Turkish empire. These reforms were supported by a band of youthful followers who favoured modernisation but opposed by the more conservative older generation. Many newspaper reports from around that time referred to the modernists as **'young Turks'** in a purely literal sense, that is, they were young and they were Turkish. Over a century later a Turkish nationalist party that supported the reformation of the absolute monarchy of the Ottoman Empire was formed and started the Turkish revolution of 1908. It was led by Mehmed Talaat (aged 34), Ismail Enver (27) and Ahmed Djemal (36), who were widely known as the **'Young Turks'**. Soon after that any group of people passionate for change became known as 'Young Turks' (The Phrase Finder).

Season 2 of ASAP FUN!

