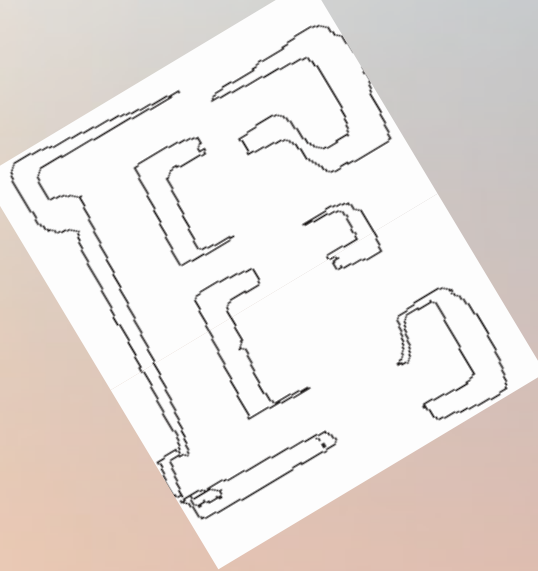




n e w s

News from the trunk!

Monday, September 5th, 2022



Back to School Night
Welcome

Tuesday September 4th, 5 – 7pm

This is an opportunity for parents to meet their children’s teachers. There will be the opportunity to learn more about what is being taught in class, how assessment works and any other pertinent information.

Please note this is an **adult only** event.



Letter from the Superintendent,
Bridget Davies

Dear KAS Community,

This week we were able to experience democracy in action within our Middle and High School community. After a feverish period of campaigning via posters and flyers all candidates for Student Council positions addressed Grade 5- 12 Students on Wednesday afternoon.

All candidates for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Publicist gave impassioned speeches setting out their ideas for Student Council 2022-23. In person voting then took place and we now have a fully established Student Council for the year.

Please join me in congratulating:

- 1- President: Jonathan Fargalla
- 2- Vice President: Mohamed Elmubarak
- 3- Secretary: Lujain Fadl
- 4- Treasurer: Elli Rizig
- 5- Publicist: Bracy Matta

This Saturday they will meet with Mr. Boyles and Ms. Francis for a leadership retreat. I am sure we are all looking forward to finding out what they have planned.

Have a lovely weekend,

Bridget Davies

Letter from the Principal,
Bruce Doig

Student Agency

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) cites I. Schoon in its explanation of student agency as both a learning goal and a learning process. The goal is students finding meaning and purpose in their own lives and having the belief that by making personal goals and acting on them, they can fulfil or meet that purpose (OECD). Schoon says student agency reflects:

“the active and lifelong processes of inquiry, engagement and participation in the world around us. It involves the ability to act intentionally, to make things happen, to be a product as well as a producer of the social world.”

How do we foster learning agency at KAS? The first is through teacher-guided practice. Students are encouraged to set learning goals and create plans to achieve them. Examples might be project rubrics that outline what makes an outstanding, above average, satisfactory, or less than satisfactory project, with students encouraged to document which level they are going to choose to work towards, and then reflecting on what they have done in the process of completing the project. The second is through student-driven practice. In this, students are encouraged to develop an organizational plan to meet their desired outcome. For instance, if a major assignment is starting in class, students are encouraged to develop action plans and to-do lists that break down the elements of the project, and then track whether they are meeting the daily or weekly goals they set to complete the assignment.

The outcome at KAS is the same – to foster self-initiated agency that helps students generate learning questions for themselves, that helps students develop organizational skills to create an action plan and calendar for their work, and that helps students become independent learners who create their own inquiry in their classes in addition to the inquiry incorporated in projects and assignments. This skills is a lifelong skill that helps our students grow and succeed as they move on to other schools, to other countries, and to universities and jobs.

School Principal
Bruce Doig

Firm Foundation

Engineers, architects and some other professionals build based on an idea of an outcome, an expectation of a result, a vision. In order to make this vision a reality, a whole process begins: calculations, measurements, decisions, and well, some more math. Evidently, the beginning of any structure, is the foundation. It must be a base big and strong enough to hold the rest of the building, not only that, it must also be long-lasting. This is my way of understanding Early Childhood education.

There is plenty of literature (e.g., Degotardi, S., Davis, B., & Fordham, L.A.) supporting the fact that the first years of a child's life builds a foundation for lifelong learning. At KAS we do everything possible to foster early learning, complementing the work of families at home. Our Early Childhood program which is based on The Creative Curriculum[®], aims to promote opportunities to discover and inquire, encourage creativity and think critically even at this young age.

Through different units along the year, we hope to reach several goals divided into the following areas of development: social-emotional, cognitive, physical, language, literacy, mathematics, arts, and others. Our main objective is to foster proper development and prepare our youngest generations for the future. As stated in our school's vision and mission, we focus on building our students' character, through the curriculum, to enrich our community and promote global citizenship.

Community is very important to us, which is why we encourage parents to play an active role in each child's education. This can be done by some actions as simple as asking your child how his or her day went at school. You may refer to the previous e-news for ideas and suggestions from our Principal.

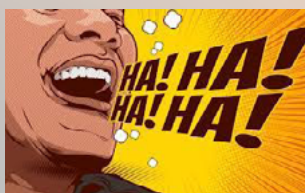
Teachers try to do everything to the best of their abilities to provide a good education for our students, but we can do so little compared to what we could do together with the support and cooperation of families. Helen Keller, a famous American author said "Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much," which applies to the many matters in life, specially a child's education.

Vianca Trigo
Preschool Teacher



Saying

To be In Stitches means to laugh a lot. This Shakespeare coinage is from Twelfth Night, published in 1602, when Maria says: "If you desire the spleen, and will laugh yourself into stitches, follow me" (Styl-ish).



Minette van der Bijl
HS EAL Teacher

Student Council

Student Representatives of KAS

On Wednesday our school community (grade 6-12) had the exciting privilege of electing our new Student Council executive. It is important to give our students an opportunity to be in leadership positions and our Student Council body represents the voices of our student community. Students were able to listen to the nominees speeches and then exercise their voice by electing the candidates they believe are best for the position. It was a wonderful and successful event.

WHAT IS STUDENT COUNCIL AT KAS

Student Council is a body of students who are elected by their peers to address school issues and organize school activities and events. To be on the student council, a student must have good academic standing and act as a positive role model to peers; however, at KAS we allow the opportunity for any student to nominate themselves to run for an election.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF STUDENT COUNCIL AT KAS

Generally, the purpose of a student council is to train young people in leadership skills and exercise those leadership skills. The Student Council represents the student community and this requires speaking on behalf of the student community to teachers, the principal, and others in authority.

Another purpose of a student council is to facilitate fundraising for service and school projects. This may include raising money for dances, school reform, or community service projects. Student council often organizes social events or fundraisers in an effort to give back to the community, help those in need, and organize social events for the student community.

It is my pleasure to announce the 2022-2023 Student Council executive:

- 1- President: Jonathan Fargalla
- 2- Vice President: Mohamed Elmubarak
- 3- Secretary: Lujain Fadl
- 4- Treasurer: Elli Rizig
- 5- Publicist: Bracy Matta

A warm congratulations to the executive and we wish them all the best in their duties to support our students.

Shelley Ann Francis
MS/HS Counselor

