

Educational Question of the Week

Are the students of today still provided with a balance of work, play and leisure at home and school?

Chris Fadera

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Another Myth in Education

As promised last week, here is another myth from John Hattie, the renowned education researcher, and it may come as something of a surprise, so get ready!

Myth: Homework is a necessary evil

Reality: Meta-analysis has shown that the amount of homework a student does in primary school has no effect on student achievement or progress. The research is not saying that there should be no homework, but if schools are going to set homework (which many parents expect) then the focus should be on the type of homework given. Homework does have more effect on results for secondary school children, but generally students are given way too much. A short time spent practising what was taught that day can have the same effect as one or two hours of study. Professor Hattie says what happens in the classroom is what matters most. Five to 10 minutes practising what was taught at school that day has the same effect as one to two hours studying something different. The worst thing you can do with homework is give young kids projects to do.

Lastly a date for your calendars: November 21, 8am to 9am: Coffee morning for parents to look at and discuss a model for our Parents/Teachers Association relaunch (KICSPA).

Mr Peter

CALENDAR

Week 9	Week 10
Sun Oct 15 Y10 Geography Field Trip 14:30-16:00 Basketball Practice 14:30-16:30 Swim Squad Training	Sun Oct 22 14:30-16:00 Basketball Practice 14:30-16:00 Swim Squad Training
Mon Oct 16 15:30-18:00 Y7/10Boys/Girls Basketball @ NVS	Mon Oct 23 8:00-12:00 Primary Swimathon 15:30-17:30 Y7/10Boys/Girls Basketball @ KAS 18:00-21:00 Y7, 11 & 13 PTSCs
Tues Oct 17 8:00-9:00 Board & Community Coffee Morning 14:30-16:00 Basketball Practice 19:30-21:30 Community Lecture	Tues Oct 24 14:30-16:00 Basketball Practice 19:30-21:30 Community Lecture
Weds Oct 18 Parent Child Protection Workshops 15:30-18:00 Senior Boys/Girls Basketball @ NVS	Weds Oct 25 19:00-21:00 Radio Show Live
Thurs Oct 19 KICS Founders Day 15:00-18:00 Y5/6 Boys/Girls Basketball Tournament	Thurs Oct 26 Mid Semester Report Published 15:00-18:00 Junior Boys/Girls Basketball Tournament
Fri Oct 20	Fri Oct 27
Sat Oct 21 10:00-12:00 Silver Band Rehearsal	Sat Oct 28

BOARD & COMMUNITY COFFEE MORNING



Invitation to all staff and parents
 17th October 2017 from 8-9am in the Cafeteria

Senior Library will be closed on Saturdays

Over the last 2 years there have been great changes at KICS on Saturdays as the cafeteria and the IB Center have opened for student/parent use. With these changes the Senior Library has noticed a reduced demand from students and parents to use the library on Saturdays from 9-12 as a study place and to borrow books.

As a trial, from Saturday 7th October onwards the Senior Library will be closed on Saturdays. Parents unable to visit KICS during the week and who want to borrow books have the option of choosing books they want on library catalogue www.oliver.kics.sd and then e-mailing the senior.library.kics.sd with their book request. Books will then be sent home with their youngest child.

K I KICS IS DELIGHTED TO INVITE THIS LEADING MODERN ARTIST
C S TO TALK ABOUT HER LIFE'S WORK
AN EVENING WITH KAMALA ISHAG
 In conversation with ELAMIN M. OSMAN
 BA Fine Art, Khartoum, MFA in Fine Arts, Belgrade. Founder of Kerma Art and Design
 Junior Hall, 7.30 pm, October 17th 2017



Sudan's first modern female artist, Kamala Ishag challenged the dominant male perspective of art in Sudan

Ustaza Kamala graduated from the College of Fine Art in Khartoum in 1963 and pursued postgraduate studies at the Royal College of Fine Art, London from 1964-1966. She returned to Khartoum at the College of Fine Art and rose to become Head of Painting Dept. In 1978 she established the 'Crystallist Group' a conceptual art group that challenged traditional practices in Sudanese art.

We will be exhibiting some original works of Art by Kamala.

AROUND THE PRIMARY SECTION

From Year 2

Year 2 students have had a very exciting start to the year. We have been working so hard and we have been enjoying every minute! One of the most popular parts of each day at the moment is when we do the Reading and Writing Workshops. The students love the sense of ownership they have over their work. We have just published our first fiction books and we look forward to seeing what happens next when we embrace the world of non-fiction.

Our first Unit of Inquiry was 'How We Organise Ourselves'. During this time, we had the opportunity to learn about various modes of transport, how they developed over time and we spent some time speculating on where we might go in the future. The students drove this unit down many interesting routes of inquiry. We built a mini city and discovered many infrastructural issues that had to be conquered. We experimented with gravity and air propulsion with our paper airplanes. The unit culminated in the big question- what will our future transport needs be and how will transport change to meet those needs.

We have already begun the second Unit of Inquiry which is 'Who We Are'. As a provocation into the unit, we decided to create our own fitness video. The students enjoyed making it so much that they have committed to sacrificing their free inquiry session on Thursday



PYP PE

Students have been exploring how attention to technique can improve their performance in swimming. We focused on coordination, body positioning, kicking and arm recovery in the freestyle and backstroke. We are currently focusing on breaststroke. The Development Swim Squad, Swim Support and Fun Splash ECAs have also seen our primary make giant strides in swimming this semester.

Swimathon

As a culmination activity, the PYP Swimathon is scheduled for Tuesday the 23rd of October. The students are excited about this great opportunity to raise money for Kids for Kids and improve their endurance and technique. We encourage the parents to come and support the students on the day in addition to sponsoring their children.



Next Unit- Ball Skills

The swimming unit is coming to an end, and this will be followed by the ball skills unit where the focus will be in developing fundamental skills such as passing, dribbling, spatial awareness and ball control in soccer and basketball. We will also focus on interpersonal/social skills like teamwork, sportsmanship and collaboration.

AROUND THE SENIOR SECTION

Last year I noticed that I started a lot of my weekly round-ups with the phrase 'It has been another busy week...'. Whilst I have tried to avoid using this almost self-evident starter this year, it has been a week that could only be described as busy. Our basketball teams have been in action again at Unity this week and yet again we were very successful. The Art and Drama students are having a great time in London, the Drama students at the ISTA workshop and our Art students, despite the rather dreadful October weather, are exploring many different types of Art, from formal galleries to street art.

Here at school we had our first SAT exams of the new academic year on Saturday. Thanks to everyone for helping us to keep the senior section clear and quiet. The SAT exams are important to students who are applying for university places in the USA and we host them four times a year, running three different exam rooms, for our own students and students from other schools around Khartoum. The November IGCSE exams, which despite their name, take place in October, are underway and we will be examining a number of subjects between now and the half term break on the 26th October

All this week we have had Nikki Sheehan in school as our visiting author. She is probably best known for the novel *Swan Boy* and has hosted several different sessions with members of our community to talk about aspects of writing. Her classes were fascinating and we are very grateful to her for her work with us this week. Our screening of 'Iman' which deals with grooming, filmed by the UNDP mostly in Sudan, was very popular with the year 10-13 students.

We also had our first PTSC of the year. It was as always good to see everyone, in what becomes a fusion between an academic and social event. I look forward to seeing parents of Year 7, 11 and 13 on the 23rd October at their PTSC. Year 11 parents will also have a college counselling talk prior to the start of the PTSC. Just a quick reminder that reports will be released on the 26th October via the parent portal.

Mr. Andrew

WHAT ARE RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES ?

The Russell Group represents 24 leading UK universities 'which are committed to maintaining the very best research, an outstanding teaching and learning experience and unrivalled links with business and the public sector'

Russell Group universities define their characteristics as comprising:

- A high concentration of talent in both faculty and students:
- Resources to provide an extensive and comprehensive learning environment and a rich environment for advanced research;



- Governance that encourages autonomy, vision, innovation and flexibility.
- The 24 universities in the group are: Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Durham, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Imperial, Kings, Leeds, Liverpool,

LSE, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Oxford, Queen Mary, Queen's Belfast, Sheffield, Southampton, UCL, Warwick and York.

Russell Group universities are very popular with KICS graduates and our students have attended almost all of the universities on this list over the past years.

READING CORNER



VISITING AUTHOR



We have just finished another successful week with the visiting author of this year, Nikki Sheehan, at KICS. Nikki was busy with classes and activities in the Senior section but also taught the Year 6 students in Primary and read to the Infant section.

Some Senior students who had read Nikki's books had the opportunity to join her for lunch and discuss her books; she read her childhood favorite story to the Infant classes and many parents attended the workshop "How to help your child write creatively". Teachers didn't miss out as they had the opportunity to learn from her ways to support students investment in writing and reading. It is always a pleasure to have a professional like her at school. Thank you for coming Nikki and perhaps your next book will be connected to Sudan in some way (an author who visited previously has written a novel that features Sudan).

BOOK WEEK IS COMING – TIME TO START PLANNING YOUR CHARACTER COSTUME

Book Week (19-22 November) is a popular event for students and every year in Primary we have a Character Parade. Students choose a book character that they like and dress like them. Even though November is a number of weeks away why not take some time with your child over the holidays to decide what character they would like to be and what their costume will require. Costumes do not need to be bought especially for the event. Why not get your child to use their imagination and help them make part of their costume. Some students have created excellent costumes only using items found at home. If you are travelling overseas during the October break this is an opportunity to purchase what you need.

The Libraries Team

FROM THE ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT



The KICS Tennis Academy would like to invite you for a Pilot Tennis tournament on Sunday 22 October from 5:30 pm till 9:00pm. Please see the registration form below.

Coach Antonio and Gerben

[Pilot Tennis Tournament October 2017](#)



TENNIS ACADEMY staff/parents tournament (pilot tournament)

When: Sunday 22 October, 5:30 pm – 9pm
 Where: KICS Tennis courts
 Cost: FREE!!
 Who: Staff, and parents.... young & old
 What: Probably a quick double elimination tournament
 Extra: Free coffee/water/juice & snacks and lots of FUN



Dear basketball fans and Rhino supporters,

Next week we will be traveling to NVS on Monday and Wednesday. Buses leave both days at 2:35.

We need you support, so please come and cheer our Rhino's to another victory.

Basketball game

Go Rhino's Go

Monday 16 October and Wednesday 18 October

Basketball games

UHS vs KICS



GAME	NVS vs KICS	Results
Monday	16 th October	If you want to know early, just come out and watch.
3:30 Boys Y7-8	Inside	Come out and Watch
3:30 Girls Y7-8	Inside	Come out and Watch
Wednesday		
4:15 Boys Y9-10	Inside	Come out and Watch
4:15 Girls Y10-13	Inside	Come out and Watch
5:00 Boys Y11-13	Inside	Come out and Watch

FROM THE ARTS DEPARTMENT



KICS Radio Show for 2017

Soon the sounds of singers and instrumental players of all kinds will be heard once again through the world famous KICS Radio Show for 2017 on WKICS 98.9FM.

This "live on –stage radio show that is broadcast all over the world" attempts to recreate the golden age of radio when there was nothing but the radio for listening to music and the news through an electronic device. Performers of all types and kinds will grace the stage to a real live studio audience. Music is featured throughout but added special programs typical of radio can also be enjoyed, such the ever popular radio game "Who Wants a Free Band Brownie?" Or the high in demand "need to hear" the latest news, weather and sport reports even though the tongue-in-cheek humor might just surprise you.

The Silver KICS Band will make its first public performance for its concert season as it begins its preparation for its third band tour, this time to Kampala, Uganda. Various other singers and instrumentalists from the Senior Section and school staff will also amaze and delight audience members with their high quality musical accomplishments.

Tickets will be available very soon at the cashier's office or also available at the front gate the night of the show. These tickets

are free to the first 350 people responding to this news article. Be sure to invite your family and friends. All are welcome!



Mr Bob

ARTIST OF THE WEEK



Artwork by: **Qingxin**, Year 7