

## From Brian’s Desk

### Welcome Back!

It’s hard to believe it, but another school year is beginning to draw to a close as we hit the final term.

As already announced, in addition to Eid, we will have school holidays on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April for Sierra Leone Independence Day and on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May for Labor Day.

We will have a student art exhibition open on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May and an early evening opening for parents from 5:00pm to about 6:30 on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup>. I will be getting more details to you soon.

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, the Board will have its Annual General Meeting with the parent community. Again, more details will reach you long before then.

### Resilience and Resolve

I was listening to Peter Round, the head of Khartoum International Community School, speak last Thursday explaining to heads of school around the world how he was sheltering both members of his school community and others on campus while fighting rages in the city. I also have a dear friend who is head of Khartoum American School and has been evacuated to a UN sanctuary hotel as her school is near the epicenter of the conflict. And, as difficult as their plight may be, they are luckier than many in Khartoum at this time.

In his briefing, Peter spoke of the importance of resilience and resolve at a time such as this which brings me to my quote for this week, “Enthusiasm is common. Endurance is rare.” If you think about those who are successful in school, but—more importantly—successful in life, a notable factor is resilience and endurance. We all know that life is going to have its difficult moments—some very difficult indeed—but the successful people find a way to bounce back, endure, and succeed despite the challenges, disappointments, and failures.

How can we encourage resilience in our children and in our students? Set high expectations and don’t make it too easy; at the same time, let them know that they are loved and cared for, and that failure is necessary to achieve success. Whenever we try something really hard, we will have failures along the way, but we pick ourselves up and try again. So, let us allow our children to do for themselves and let them attempt things that are hard in the knowledge that we are there to help them pick themselves up and try, try, try again.

And, at this time, let us send our good thoughts and prayers to all those suffering in Khartoum and in conflict zones around the world.

### Important Upcoming Dates

<b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Sierra Leone Independence Day: School Closed</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>May Day (Labour Day): AISF Closed</b>
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Art Exhibition at AISF</b>
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Annual General Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	<b>Promotion Ceremony (KG to Elementary, G4 to Middle School, G8 to High School)</b>
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>International Day @ AISF</b>
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Final Day of School: 12 noon dismissal</b>

Quote of the Week: *Enthusiasm is common. Endurance is rare.* Angela Duckworth

# ECC

Kindergarten students are starting a new math module and they are excited about it. In IPC we are learning about farm animals and produce; we started off by reading some animal stories and discussing the essence of farms.

We have our first SUNFLOWER 🌻 it bloomed!!!



# Grade 1-2

This week we came back from Spring break full of energy and ready to learn! We started our new IPC unit "What We Wear", which is all about clothing throughout history. In Math the Grade 1s are working on addition and subtraction to 100, and the Grade 2s just started a unit on shapes and fractions. In PE we are having lots of fun improving our 4-square skills!

We also celebrated Jasper's birthday this week - Happy Birthday Jasper!



# Grade 3-4

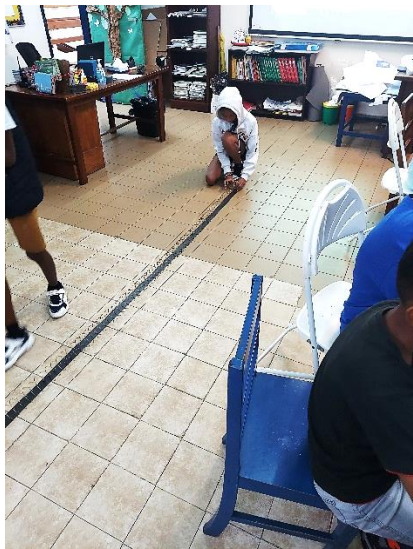
We're glad to be back and in the full swing of things. Both Grades 3 and 4 have started their modules on fractions. Grade 3 have been practicing the concepts of whole, halves, thirds and quarters with fruity fractions! Grade 4 have been focusing on equivalent fractions as well as decomposing and composing fractional units.

In Coding the Chimpanzees have been using the Scratch program to write about their holidays. They even made cartoon characters!



# Grade 5-8 (Math and Science)

Middle schoolers returned from spring break ready to go! 5th grade began exploring volume with unit cubes. 6th grade learned to find the area of parallelograms and right triangles. Grades 7 and 8 learned how to use factorials, the fundamental counting principle, permutations and combinations. They showed what they learned on a quiz Thursday! In Science, grades 5 and 6 began exploring mechanical waves and tested how waves travel through different mediums. Grades 7 and 8 learned more about the different layers of the atmosphere.



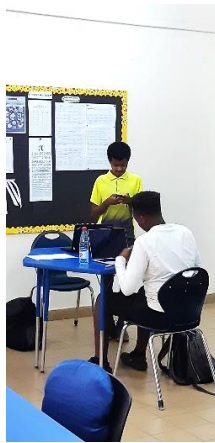
# Grade 5-8 (English and Social Studies)

We have a positive return from break this week! 5/6 and 7/8 picked up where they left off; 5/6 read Chapters 6,7, and 8 of The Giver, while 7/8 read Act 2 Scene 1 of A Midsummer Night's Dream.



# High School

High School students had to combine work and fun during the April break since their VHS (Virtual High School) and UNHS (University of Nebraska Online High School) calendars don't coincide with AISF's. They had to continue to submit work online, but there was still time for a pleasant and relaxing break for them. This week they have been busy completing work independently or with assistance from their in-person support teachers. We had to say "Good Bye!" to Alieu who has been a great addition to the AISF High School this year. Also, we want to say: "Good luck, mate, wherever you go! Soccer Be with You!"



# French (Middle School)

Grade 5 and 6 knows now how to call the different parts of the body in French. Everybody enjoyed playing the game 'Jacques a dit' (= Simon says) to help memorize the words.

In grammar we worked on the conjugation of 'être' and on how to express the near future ('aller' + infinitive).

A poster helped to revise the vocabulary and expressions of the last lessons. And at the end of the chapter we also made an imaginary journey, to a French speaking place of course, from where we sent a postcard!

