

# KAOHSIUNG AMERICAN SCHOOL

PREPARING BALANCED INDIVIDUALS, INDEPENDENT LEARNERS, AND GLOBAL CITIZENS



Dr. Thomas Farrell *Superintendent of Schools*  
Dawn Rock *HS Principal*

Victor Boulanger *Director of Learning Technology*  
Carmen Peters *ES & MS Principal*

Dear Parents,

Our second week of school has come to a close and classes are running smoothly. Thank you for your continued cooperation with drop-off and pick-up times. As expected, traffic is dense for a few minutes but clears quickly. Please continue to be vigilant and cautious if you are dropping off and picking up in front of the school. Some parents have found it to be more convenient to use the bus service. Please contact the main office if you would like more information about that.

Our Media Center is open after school for study groups or for quiet discussions/activities. If you take your child to the Media Center please be mindful it is an extension of our library and is intended as a workspace. Children can read, talk quietly to one another or work on their homework. They are not permitted to run, play active games, re-arrange the colored block furniture, etc. Some children may be confused because the Center is new and colorful so we have to remind them it is not a playground. Please supervise your children accordingly while in the Media Center. Thank you for helping us maintain a proper learning atmosphere.

The same guidelines apply to the cafeteria and lobby areas. Please assist us in maintaining a professional work environment by ensuring your child is seated and working on homework when using the cafeteria after school.

Please mark the date for our Open House on your calendars. It will take place on Friday, August 28 from 3:15-5:15. Opening remarks will be in the auditorium at 3:15 followed by opportunities to hear presentations by your child's teachers. Elementary students must go with their parents to the classrooms. They will sit in the carpet area and read or do a quiet activity while the teacher is presenting to parents. There is no supervision provided in other areas of the building so children must be with their parents at all times. Middle school and high school students, if remaining after school during the Open House time, may go to classes with their parents if they wish and if there is room, or they may go to the library and work quietly. We look forward to seeing you on Friday afternoon!

On Wednesday of this week, we were visited by Ms Judith Mendenhall, a master flautist. Not only did she treat us to a lovely performance, she gave a master class to one of our own musician's in grade 11, Cathleen Kuo. Cathleen demonstrated incredible courage to stand in front of an audience while getting a lesson from a master. These are Cathleen's reflections on the experience:

“When we enjoy the beautiful music play by Judith Mendenhall, flute does not seem arduous and difficult. However, there is a plethora of techniques and points for attention required in every minute and second. Walking out of the shadow and into the luminous stage, I could feel my nerves tingling like being tickled with a small feather. Taking a deep breath, I met the eyes of Judith Mendenhall; my fear was dissolved instantly by her cordial smile. To any flute player, an opportunity to learn in the masterclass, to learn with the expert like Judith Mendenhall, the

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principal flautist of the American Ballet Theater Orchestra, is always an implausible dream. Even though everything she teaches is fundamental, the discrepancy is tremendous. For instance, she emphasizes chin up, chest out and elbows down significantly. In my almost eight years learning flute career, none of my teachers really corrects me on these basic flute postures. More importantly, she asks me to listen to my tone meticulously and ensures to blow the air “inside” the flute. Those corrections may seem trivial, but my timbre and thickness of the sound do improve. Additionally, I love how she engages all the audiences in the masterclass, instead of only me participating in it. Overall, it is such an indelible experience. I feel not only blessed but thankful to KAS for giving me this precious chance to learn with one of the most prominent flutists in the world.”

Currently Dr. Farrell is in the US for his oldest son’s wedding to Ms. Tierney Jacobson. Both taught at KAS for a year not long ago. Dr. Evans has joined us in Dr. Farrell’s absence.

Warm regards,  
Dr. Tom Farrell  
Dr. Kendall Evans  
Ms Dawn Rock  
Mrs. Carmen Peters

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親愛的家長您好,

已經來到開學第二個禮拜的尾聲，課程也都進行得很順利。感謝您持續的配合我們的接送學生時間，如我們所預期的，交通會阻塞幾分鐘但很快就疏通了。假如您是在大門外接送學生也請您繼續保持警戒並且注意您的孩子。有些家長們可能也發現坐校車會是個比較方便的選擇，如您需要更多校車資訊也請到辦公室詢問。

我們的多媒體中心在放學後開放讓學生安靜的討論功課或是其他靜態的活動，如果您帶您的孩子到多媒體中心也請注意多媒體時中心是屬於圖書館的一部分，也是一個工作環境。學生們能在此讀書，安靜的討論功課。我們不允許學生在此奔跑或是隨意地搬動彩色積木傢俱等行為。有些學生可能會覺得多媒體中心看起來很新又色彩繽紛，但我們必須提醒學生們這不是一個遊樂場。請各位家長幫忙督促您的孩子，幫助我們維持一個適當的學習氣氛。

相同的規則也適用在餐廳及學校大廳。請您協助維護學校專業的工作環境，確保您的孩子在下課後到餐廳區都是坐在位置上做功課。

請家長們在您的行事曆上記下Open House(開放參觀日)的日期是在8月28日3點15分到5點15分。當天活動會先在2樓禮堂進行開幕，之後您可移駕到學生班級聽各班老師的簡報。小學部的學生必須跟著家長到各班教室，安靜的坐在地毯上看書或做其他靜態的活動，當天學校沒有另外安排人員看守您的小孩，所以請小學部家長當天務必隨時帶著您的孩子一起行動。中學部和高中部的學生如需要在當天活動的時間內留下，如果教室空間允許的話，可自由選擇是否要跟隨家長到教室。或者他們可以到圖書館安靜的讀書。我們期待星期五下午和您見面!

這個星期三我們邀請了長笛家-Judith Mendenhall蒞臨表演。除了精彩的表演之外，她還傾囊相授指導我們一位11年級的學生Cathleen Kuo長笛演奏的相關技巧。要獨自站在舞台上接受大師的指導並不是一件易事，Cathleen為大家展現了絕佳的勇氣。以下是Cathleen對此經驗的感想：

「當我們在沉浸於Judith Mendenhall美妙的長笛演奏時，好像就不覺得長笛很困難。然而卻是每分每秒都要注意其中所需的技巧及重點。從黑暗中走上光亮的舞台，我能感覺到我的神經刺痛就如同被小小的羽毛搔癢一般。深呼吸後，我和Judith Mendenhall對眼，我的恐懼立即隨著她臉上的真摯笑容消失。對任何一個長笛演奏者來說，這麼專業的課程以及能和美國芭蕾劇院交響樂團的首席長笛家Judith Mendenhall這樣的大師學習的機會都是一個令人難以置信的夢想。雖然她所教導我的都是基本動作，差異卻是極大的。例如：他特別強調抬起下巴，挺起胸膛，手肘顯著放低。在我過去這八年學習長笛生涯中，我的老師幾乎不曾真正矯正過我的基本姿勢。更重要的是，她要求我仔細聆聽曲調，並且確保我把笛子裡的"空氣"吹出來。這些矯正動作看似索碎，卻讓我的音質更細膩，聲音的厚度也改善了。除此之外，我更是佩服她在課程中把台下所有的觀眾都串連起來，不會讓人感覺只有我一個人在上這堂音樂課。總之這會是一個永久的回憶。我不僅感到喜悅也對KAS提供這個寶貴的機會充滿感謝，讓我能和國際間最負盛名的長笛大師學習。」

目前Dr. Farrell在美國參加他的長子與Ms. Tierney Jacobson的婚禮。這2位在不久前都曾在本校任教過1年。Dr. Evans會在Dr. Farrell不在台灣期間暫代其職務。

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祝順心!

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