



Kenmore Elementary

Paw Prints

Melissa Riley, Principal

As we move in the remaining December days before our Winter break, it is so good to look back on the start of the year and share the work staff and students have accomplished together. As I have shared before, our strategic goals this year focus on embedding culturally responsive, high leverage and inclusive practices in our core instruction, classrooms and our school environment. Through this, we continue to seek to increase students' ability to think creatively, critically and collaboratively about real-world topics and challenges across all content areas, including social emotional learning.

To date, we have seen and experienced a host of exciting work that I want to share:

- Our Leadership team continues to read *Culturally Responsive Teaching and the Brain* to support our Strategic initiatives. They strive to plan for, facilitate and support the staff development work outlined in our school plan through Professional Learning Communities, or PLCs.
- Our Equity Team is reading *Courageous Conversations About Race* and is practicing having those conversations in small groups and with staff, focused on race, but also recognizing and supporting how this work intersects with other identities we share. We do this because we continuously want to work on increasing our awareness, knowledge, skills and ability for advocate.
- Our P.A.W.S team, MTSS (or Multi-Tiered Systems of Support), works to **Positively Affirm the Whole Student** by supporting positive behavior practices and social emotional learning. Additionally, they have begun to share about Trauma- Informed practices that help us think and respond differently to those in our care.
- In classrooms, teachers have been maintaining strong practices that have been in place over the years and exploring new practices and content integration. For example, all grade levels have received *Being the Change*, a book with ideas for incorporating "Social Comprehension" lessons into reading, writing and art, which serve to help students make meaning from their interactions and intersections in this world with others. Many teachers are seeking and sharing resources that are relevant to all students and support students in self-expression and justifying their thinking within grade level content and curriculum.

December 2018

Calendar of Events

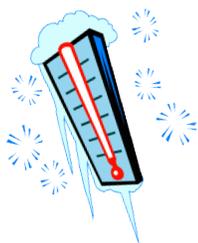
Dec 5	Early Release Wednesday, 1:55pm
Dec 6	Crochet & Fiber Club, 3:30pm, portable M
Dec 7	Science on Wheels Bus visits 4 th Grade
Dec 12	Early Release Wednesday, 1:55pm
Dec 13	PTA Popcorn Thursday
Dec 13	Kenmore Middle School Choir Visits, 9:15am, gym
Dec 13	Crochet & Fiber Club, 3:30pm, portable M
Dec 18	Recognition Assembly, 2:50pm, gym
Dec 19 – Jan 1	NO SCHOOL – WINTER BREAK
Jan 2	WELCOME BACK!!
Jan 2	Early Release Wednesday, 1:55pm

- Our new Kenmore Home-School Alliance has kicked off, officially starting a Family Culture series once a month for any family to come together to learn about aspects of culture and share about their own culture and experiences so that we can grow together, from each other, in order to support our children at school, at home and as they navigate this complex world.
- Finally, with the support of PTA, and parents who have helped fund school programs, we have been able to use enrichment dollars to bring Book-It Theater to our school in mid-November to perform the first of three plays this year, *The Upside-Down Boy*, a bi-lingual play about a boy who is new to America and has to navigate a whole new world at school. Every classroom teacher received a copy of the book so that they could read the book and have discussions with students before and after the play to help increase students' awareness and perspective. We look forward to many more enriching experiences like these this year.

The challenging work teachers and staff are doing for students is only highlighted above. Yes, it speaks to our Strategic Action Plan for our school. But we do so because it matters now, it matters at every grade level, and it will matter in the future—when we send students off to middle and high school before they enter the “real world.” We do this work because we aim to fulfill our shared vision for your children—one in which students have every opportunity to thrive in success.

This is just a few months in review, and with a lot of details missing. If you want to know more, please reach out to your child’s teacher or our Administrative Team. We look forward to your engagement and continuing to update you about our work and progress this year.

Mrs. Riley ☺



Cold Weather Clothing

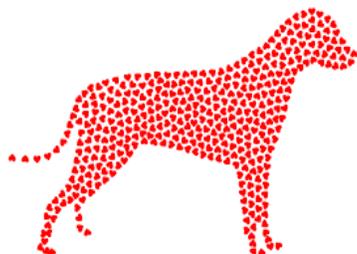
Thank you for sending your children to school with proper outdoor attire. Students need to stay dry and warm so that they can return from recess and quickly concentrate on learning. In addition, in the event of an unplanned emergency drill, students may have to stand outside for a lengthy amount of time. It is important that they are always prepared for such situations.



Attendance Line: 425-408-4810.



Please leave a voice message to report all late arrivals and absences.



Animals on Campus

Animals are not allowed on campus, at any time, without prior approval from an administrator. Please do not allow your students to bring in pets for show and tell.



Bus Passes

District Transportation Department has now finalized total head counts on each bus for the 18-19 year. **This year there will be 2 bus passes allowed per day for each bus, with the exception of bus T-27. T-27 is full and not allowing bus passes this year.** All other bus passes will be issued on a first come first serve basis.

Change in After-School Plans

Please remember that any daily changes in your child's means of transportation (i.e. walking, bus or parent pick-up) and/or destination, must be validated by a note signed and dated by you as the parent or guardian. **Without a note, your child will not be able to make a change from his/her daily routine.** If you forgot to send a note, please call the office as early in the day as possible. Calling late in the day is disruptive to the classroom since it requires us to interrupt during learning time. Your support in the matter is greatly appreciated!

Student Safety

All visitors on campus must first sign in at the Main Office and also put on a visitor badge or sticker. Please be sure to sign out and return the badge or sticker before you leave campus. Thank you for helping to promote campus safety!



Kenmore Elementary Office Hours 8:15am-4:15pm



On Thursday, November 1st, our PTA provided a wonderful lunch variety of soups, stews, salads and sweet treats for Kenmore staff.

The delicious food was very much appreciated!



Happy Holidays from Our School Counselors!

Wishing all of our Kenmore families a very happy holiday season. Returning to school after an extended break can come with mixed emotions for students. For some students, it is a welcome relief after what can feel like a very long holiday break. For others, the return to school can signal the end of a carefree and relaxing break, which can bring up feelings of sadness or anxiety associated with the return to routine and the academic and social demands related to school. When schools and families have shared behavior expectations and a common language for social and emotional skills, it can be “easier” for students to transition smoothly and successfully back to the school setting. If you feel your child needs additional support in the transition back or you need assistance in learning the social-emotional language used here at Kenmore please contact one of our school counselors. Thank you and happy holidays.

Jenny Muscatell
School Counselor
jmuscatell@nsd.org
425-408-4816

Adam Taylor
School Counselor
ataylor@nsd.org
425-408-4826



Friday, December 7th is ASB Spirit Day “Backwards Day”!

You can wear clothes backwards or inside out. Call yourself with your name backwards (last name first then first name). Wear your backpacks on your chest instead of your back. Wear your ponytail in the front instead of back of your head. Talk to your friends in backwards sentences.



Our **Book Fair** was a huge success!

Thank you to all our Book Fair volunteers: Esther Lee, Cathy Sherlock, Jessie Lewis, Eddie Espinosa, Sara Farhat, Erin Quinn, Elisabeth Lepine, Patty Brown, Erin Welch, Melissa Atchison, Ryan Miller, and Liz Abersold! We couldn't have done it without you.

Special thank you to our volunteer coordinator, Natasha Cowan!

District News

Highly Capable

The 2018-2019 Highly Capable Eligibility Process for services beginning in the 2019-2020 school year is underway! Information regarding this year's process is posted on Northshore's HiCap website. To access information regarding screening and assessment:

- Got to: www.nsd.org, In Our Schools, Programs and Services, Highly Capable Services
- Click on Eligibility and Testing for an overview and timeline of this year's process
- Click on Eligibility and Testing, Current Students for the process at each grade level
- Click on Eligibility and Testing, Instruments for descriptions of tools used

This year all eligibility information will be shared by email, as well as student's backpack mail. Therefore, this is a great time to make sure your contact information is up to date. You can do this online through [ParentVue](#) or by contacting the main office at your student's school.

Head Start Family Support Office:

If you are interested in enrolling your preschool student, have questions or need assistance, please call our Head Start Family Support Office.

Head Start Office: 425-408-4862

Our Head Start Family Support Specialists, Emily Birchman and Stephanie Gonwa are glad to assist you.