

# Kenmore Paw Prints

February 2022

## Principal's Message

Dear Kenmore Families,

This week Kenmore staff was delightfully surprised by the kindness of our parents. Thank you to Becky Dennison who delivered individual coffee orders from the staff favorite lists and provided the extra caffeine. On Friday, we were surprised with an anonymous gift of donuts and coffee. A BIG thank you to the anonymous parent group and Becky for spoiling us. What a sweet way to begin our Friday morning this way. Thank you again for thinking of us!

It's February already, a short month with much to acknowledge and celebrate: Black History Month, Lunar New Year, Presidents Day, and a mid winter break. January was a very busy month as we continued to ride the rapid waves of COVID and maintain as much normalcy in our school day. Meanwhile, most of our Cubs completed the winter iReady diagnostics and showed overall growth. Staff continue to provide interventions and we are committed to see this trend continue.

In other exciting news, thank you to our KEPTA and the Northshore Schools Foundation Campaign we secured \$7,542.30 to fund Recess Reboot by Playworks. Unfortunately, we had to reschedule the training to April, and our staff and junior coaches are excitedly anticipating this training. During our KEPTA meeting there was a question that inquired about the benefits of Playworks. I asked Samantha Nunes if she would share her experience with us. Her thoughts are written below.

This past month our student leaders began their roles in various capacities. On campus, you may have noted an expansion to Safety Patrol in the mornings. These are our Junior Safety Patrol members who will be assisting staff with morning supervision and assisting with overall safety and support of our students. Student leaders in other capacities such as Tech Support, Media Relations & Communications, Ambassadors, Multilingual Girls Leaders, Environmental Protection & Preservation, Kindness Challenge have been notified and will be assigned tasks (if they haven't already) in the weeks ahead.

A gentle reminder as I close this monthly message to please continue to encourage your student to read. I could list all the adages here of the importance of reading, instead, I've attached a document with some information to support parents at home with their readers.

As we acknowledge and celebrate Black History Month, we've included links to a virtual event hosted by the Racial and Educational Justice Department below intended for all Northshore families, communities and students. It may be more appropriate for the intermediate grades.

Last, Happy Lunar New Year to all our cubs Celebrating!

In Partnership,  
Geetha George-Shapiro  
Principal

### **My experience with Playworks from Counselor Samantha Nunes**

Thinking back to the school I worked at that utilized Playworks during recess, I often am left with a memory of calm and community. While every recess has its struggles, it was clear that with Playworks there were expectations and procedures put in place to minimize those struggles. At the school where I experienced Playworks, the tone of each recess was set with students chanting in line before walking to the playground: "Remember to... Be Safe, Be Kind, Have Fun!" It was clear that there was a big emphasis on inclusion with the games being played not being competitive in nature. Instead, every game played was designed for all to feel included in the game and gave great opportunities for students to cheer each other on and show sportsmanship. The inclusion was also seen with equipment like the swings where there was a clear waiting place and students knew if someone was waiting to keep their turn short so everyone could have a turn.

To add to the safety of recess, the playground was broken up into "zones" for supervision. While all students were allowed to play in all the zones, if expectations were not followed, say a few students were not being safe on the Big Toy as an example, then that "zone" would be closed to them for a day to remind and reteach the expectations. All students were expected to be doing something at recess, so if the students wanted to just talk to friends, they did it while walking the track. This constant movement allowed for students to get their energy out and prevented many confrontations that often start within groups.

At the end of recess, the whistle was blown, all students froze where they were and then when a second whistle was blown, students then walked to their lines to go back in. Then only the lines that were quiet and respectful got excused back to class. This allowed a quick moment for students to bring their energy level back down to a level acceptable for class time. While it is hard to fully explain the impact I saw on this school with Playworks, I can say that comparing this to other schools I have worked in, it is amazing to see the differences in the behavior and spirit of the students.

Thank you,  
Samantha Nunes  
Counselor

## **Important Dates**

Tues, Feb 1 - KE Choir, 3:45-4:30, Music Room

**Wed, Feb 2 - Early Release Wednesday, 2:10pm**

Wed, Feb 2 - 5th Grade Drumming Club, 11:55-12:25, Music Room

**Fri, Feb 4 - Half Day Release, 12:20pm**

Tues, Feb 8 - Fire Drill

Tues, Feb 8 - KE Choir, 3:45-4:30, Music Room

Tues, Feb 8 - General PTA Meeting, 6:30-7:30pm

**Wed, Feb 9 - Early Release Wednesday, 2:10pm**

Thurs, Feb 10 - OTTER Books Zoom w/ KCLS Librarian (Torre, Warme & Quinn)

Tues, Feb 15 - KE Choir, 3:45-4:30, Music Room

Wed, Feb 16 - 5th Grade Drumming Club, 11:55-12:25, Music Room

**Wed, Feb 16 - Early Release Wednesday, 2:10pm**

Fri, Feb 18 - Virtual Recycling Assembly (Kindergarten & 1st Grade)

**Mon, Feb 21 - Fri, Feb 25 - NO SCHOOL ~ MID-WINTER BREAK**

Mon, Feb 28 - Welcome Back!

**Friday, February 4 - HALF DAY Dismissal at 12:20 for grades K-5** (not Head Start).

This is an elementary conference afternoon for students who missed the fall conferences or are new to the school. All elementary students will have early dismissal on Friday, Feb. 4 at 12:20.

Please note: Dismissal times are earlier than Wednesday early release times. We ask that you plan accordingly.

Please note that Friday, Feb. 4 is an early dismissal for elementary only (grades K-5); secondary students will have a full day of classes. Head Start preschool will continue with their normal schedule on this day.

**Friday, May 27 - SCHOOL DAY**

May 27 was previously designated as an Emergency Make-Up Day, and it will now be a typical student and workday for Northshore School District staff.

## Office Reminders

### CAR PICK UP

If you are picking your child up from school by car at the end of the day, please be sure to pick up in the lower parking lot. The upper parking lot is for walkers and daycare vans only.

### PHOTO I.D.

When picking a student up early, please remember to bring photo identification. If we haven't met you in person before, we will ask to check your identification. Please remember this is for the safety of your child.

## 5th Grade Drumming Club

The 5th Grade Drumming Club with Mrs. Sandusky is happening Wednesdays at 11:55 to 12:25 in the Music Room. This Drumming Club is in preparation of Sowah Mensah visiting our school. Students will learn the drum rhythms, gyil xylophone rhythms and addendum songs. If your 5th grader is interested, have them come and check it out!

## Thank You!

This month we were treated to surprises by so many wonderful Kenmore families. Thank you so much for the treats, kind words and morale boost! You are so appreciated!

*Special thanks to...*

*Burrell Family - Madeleines & Mandarins!*

*Dennison Family - Coffee & All The Fixings!*

*Annonymous Parent Group - Coffee & Doughnuts!*

# District News

## VIRTUAL EVENT HOSTED BY THE RACIAL AND EDUCATIONAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT

Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022

2:15 – 3:15 p.m.

**[Virtual] Student Panel: Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action**

*Students across Northshore School District's high schools will have a moderated conversation about their experiences in school and their visions for continuing to advance racial and educational justice in the District.*

**Intended Audience:** Northshore students, families, community members, staff, and administrators

**Information:** This student panel will be virtual and in webinar format. To register for the live webinar, please [click here](#).

## DUAL LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Northshore Families... Have you ever thought about Dual Language?

The K-5 Dual Language Program at Woodin Elementary is a bilingual educational program integrating multilingual learners and English-speaking students for instruction in and through two languages (Spanish and English) with the goal being to create students who are multilingual, multiliterate, and multicultural.

Find out if the dual-language program is the right choice for your family at an upcoming information night!

Tuesday, February 8th, 2022

- 6:00-6:30 pm
- Zoom Link: <https://nsd.zoom.us/j/86074343897?pwd=RUZ6NzZPSHJYckY4R3B4dEFoOGV1QT09>
- Please RSVP to Danielle Lewis ([dlewis@nsd.org](mailto:dlewis@nsd.org))

## FEBRUARY 8TH ELECTION

Have you voted yet?

Northshore School District has three measures to support our students on the February 8 ballot.

Check out our video to learn more or visit <https://www.nsd.org/our-district/overview/bond-levies>. If you have any final questions, please let us know at [bondlevy@nsd.org](mailto:bondlevy@nsd.org).

Want to know more about how to register to vote, where to drop off your ballot, or what to do if you lost your ballot? Check out Snohomish County Elections at

<https://snohomishcountywa.gov/224/Elections-Voter-Registration> or King County Elections at <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/elections.aspx>



## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR INTERNET ACCESS

The FCC's Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) has become the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). Information about these excellent programs for providing families true high-speed Internet access at their homes is available at <https://www.nsd.org/internetaccess>.

*These activities are not sponsored nor endorsed by the Northshore School District or any of its schools. The district assumes no responsibility for the conduct during or safety of the activities. Northshore School District shall be held harmless from any cause of action, claim, or petition filed in any court or administrative tribunal arising out of the distribution of these materials including attorney's fees and judgements or awards.*

