

November 2019

# Kerr Elementary School Newsletter



A Monthly Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 3

## Thank the entire Kerr Elementary School Community for a memorable Kerrtoberfest!

We had a fantastic turnout for our annual school and community event that occurred at Kennedy Park in Sharpsburg. Students from past and present enjoyed games, food, and entertainment...the therapy horses stole the show :) Every year brings us the opportunity to spend time together in a positive social setting that promotes positivity and well-being. A special thank you to all who were able to join us this







## HVAC Information Update

The HVAC system in the new Kerr Elementary School is a more complex system than what is found in the typical home. It has the ability to cool spaces and heat others in the building concurrently while maintaining acceptable humidity levels inside the building. The system includes an energy savings automated temperature control system for which the programming is currently being finalized. Balancing of the system to be sure the required fresh air is being maintained to each space is also being completed.

To make sure that the temperatures of occupied spaces in the building are at a satisfactory level for the students and staff while the programming is being completed has implemented the following: A daily review of the spaces by a dedicated support staff is being conducted; the HVAC Contractor and its controls subcontractor are on call to respond immediately to address any issues with the temperature that the staff encounters.

It is anticipated, that finalizing the programming and troubleshooting of the system will take another month to complete. The amount of time to perform this work is commensurate with the time it took to perform this work at Dorseyville Middle School and O'Hara Elementary School during their respective renovation projects.

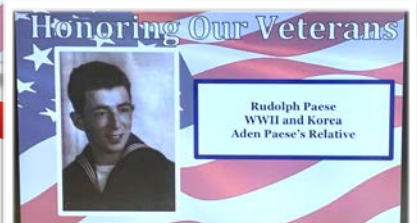
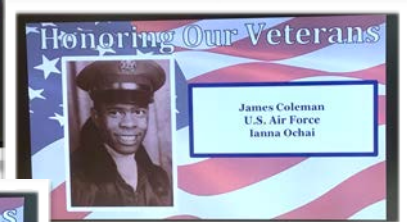
Thank you for your patience and understanding in this matter!



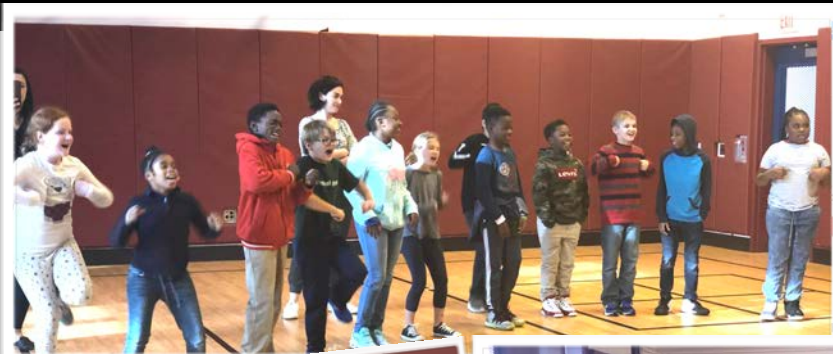
## Veteran's Day Photos Needed



We are honoring our local heroes by displaying pictures of family members (including aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc...) who have served, or are serving, in our country's military. **We will still be collecting new photos until Friday, November 8th for our display. The photos that have been collected and submitted to us in the past will be displayed this year as in previous years.** If you are sending in a photo, please make sure that you have the veteran's name on the back of the picture along with your child's name. If you know in which branch of the military they serve(d), please also include that information. Please only provide us with a **COPY** of the picture and not the original.



**Our Creative Dramatics**  
students recently visited Miller Elementary School to prepare for their collaborative performance at the O'Reilly Theater on December 7th.



## The Scholastic Book Fair was a **SUCCESS!**

A brand-new book was purchased for every child in the school, thanks to the PTO. The following fourth and fifth grade students volunteered to help with the Book Fair; Hannah Liu, Imari Masuda, Jane Weber, Annika Kubiska, Valentina Hanchar, Cody Cavanaugh, and Thomas Eichner. Can't wait to see everyone at the Scholastic Book Fair next year!



November 2019



**ELECTION DAY!**  
**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH**  
**VOTING FOR THIS UPCOMING**  
**ELECTION DAY WILL BE HELD**  
**AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH**  
**THIS YEAR. VOTING WILL**  
**NOT BE HELD AT KERR**  
**ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**



## Lost & Found

While you visit Kerr Elementary School for parent/teacher conferences, please look through the lost and found tables to check for lost coats, hats, sweatshirts, and other clothing items. Items that are not claimed will be donated to local agencies.



# Linking Together For A Cause - Give A Gift Fundraiser

One of the goals of the **Kerr Student Change Committee** is to assist community organizations by participating in school-wide service learning projects. In November, we will be fundraising for the Give a Gift program. The Network of Hope sponsors this yearly event. The goal is to help local parents provide presents for their family during the holidays. The Sharpsburg Family Worship Center will serve as our local collection site. Their goal is to collect 1200 presents. With help from the Kerr community, the student council plans to do their best to try and help them reach this goal.

We will be organizing a week long fundraising event to help Sharpsburg Family Worship.

**During the week of November 18th - 22nd**, students will get the chance to help link together for a cause. At lunch, students can donate 25 cents to purchase a paper ring. Our Student Change Committee will connect each ring together building a giant chain. The chain is symbolic of a community linking together to help a cause. The chain will be hung from the ceiling to the floor in the cafeteria. Please help us fill the entire wall. Donations for each grade level will also be tracked. The grade level with the most chain links will have a movie party.



**In addition to our fundraiser, a toy drive will occur during the week of November 18th - 27th.** The collection will take place in the Collaboratory before school (8:30-9:00 am). Students can bring in new gifts for kids of all ages (infants through teens). Gifts can range in price from \$5 to \$15. Gift cards and monetary donations are always welcome. Presents should not be wrapped. No stuffed animals or clothes please.

Recommended gifts include: board games, dolls, blocks, brand name character items, fleece blankets, puzzles, trucks, electronic accessories, Pittsburgh Sports gear.

Please help brighten the holidays for families in need.

Thanks,  
The Kerr Student Change Committee



## Holiday Photos - 2019

**The AP Photography students from Fox Chapel Area High School would love to take your holiday photos this season! Our photography package includes...**

- 20-minute session split between two winter-themed studios
- Three poses
- Five edited photos with full electronic rights emailed to you by Thanksgiving!

The cost of this package is \$50 (cash or check made payable to FCAHS Photography Club) and will be used to pay for the students' AP exams in the spring. Payment is due when you arrive for your session.

**We are booking photos sessions between 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on:**

**Saturday, November 9, 2019**

**Sunday, November 10, 2019**

Click here to sign up for a session: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A44ADAC2BAB9-holiday2>

**Bonnie Berzonski**

**Fox Chapel Area School District**

**Coordinator of Communications**



## Celebrating Veterans Day @ Kerr Elementary School



Whether it is during peacetime or a time of war, we should always convey to our school community the importance of Veterans Day in relation to both our history and patriotism. This year at Kerr Elementary School, we will continue to celebrate and honor Veterans Day so that our students comprehend the true meaning of this very special patriotic day. Our students will once again participate in a number of activities including a planned collection of items that will support veterans at the H.J. Heinz Community Living Center (118V-A) located on Delafield Road just a few miles from Kerr Elementary School. **We will begin to collect your donations in the main hallway near the front entrance of Kerr Elementary School between Monday, October 28th, and ending on Friday, November 8th. These items will then be delivered to the H. J. Heinz Community Living Center the following week.**

Other activities that we are working on for November 11<sup>th</sup> include: Decorating the outside of the school, and awarding gift bags to one student from each homeroom and three staff members who wear the most red, white and blue clothing. We will also have a guest speaker, speeches by our students, playing of Taps, and singing patriotic songs!

Our goal is to demonstrate both pride and support of all the veterans both active and retired. We hope you will help our cause through your donations and support. Below you will find a list of items for our collection.

Many thanks for all you do!  
Kerr Elementary School Staff

### Donation List for Veterans Day

Toothpaste

Toothbrushes

Toothbrush Holders (travel type)

Combs

Hairbrushes

Body Wash (no cake soaps)

Body Lotion

Deodorant

Shampoo

Athletic Socks (Men & Women)

Monetary Donations are also welcome!



### **Kerr Makerspace Consumable Drive**

The Kerr Makerspace is in need of supplies. Below is a list of items we are collecting. Many items are recyclable materials that we tend to throw away. Please consider donating items. If your child does bring an item to school, please have them drop the item off in the Kerr Makerspace.

Thanks for your support,  
Mr. Strzempek



**Flat Empty Cereal Boxes**



**Yarn, String, Thread and Rubber Bands**



**Gift, Paper Towel and Toilet Paper Tubes**



**Felt of Fabric Scraps**



**Plastic Bottles, Bottle Caps and Corks**



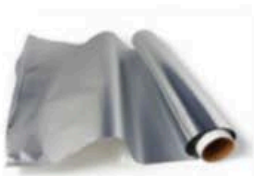
**Unwanted Art and Craft Supplies**



**Small Plastic Toys You No Longer Want Or Need**



**Duct, Masking or Scotch Tape**



**Aluminum Foil, Pans and Trays**



**Popsicle Sticks, Straws and Pipe Cleaners**



**CDs and Old Computer/Electronic Parts**



**Wood Blocks and Legos**

...and pretty much anything else you think would help make an awesome creation!

## November Dates:

### November 2019 Dates to Remember

November - 1 - Report Cards Available  
 November - 4 - NOON DISMISSAL  
 November - 4 - Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 November - 5 - NO SCHOOL for STUDENTS  
 November - 5 - Parent/Teacher Conferences  
 November - 6 - Kerr PTO Meeting - 9:15 a.m.  
 November - 11 - Veteran's Day  
 November - 11/15 - Traveling Art Gallery Week  
 November - 14 - Pre-K Parent Night - 5-6 p.m.  
 November - 19 - Picture Make-Up Day  
 November - 27 - NOON DISMISSAL  
 November - 28 - December 2 - Thanksgiving Break  
 December - 3 - Students return to normal schedule

## A special THANK YOU to our Battle of the Books Teams!

Our Kerr Elementary School students worked very hard over the past six weeks in preparation to compete against teams from O'Hara Elementary School, Hartwood Elementary School, and Fairview Elementary School. I am very proud to say that our students gave it their all throughout the five-rounds of questions. While we did not bring the Battle of the Books Trophy back to Kerr this year, we can all be very proud of the effort of each of our students who competed.



## Kerr Teams

The M&M's

Shooting Stars

Vsco Vibes

The Book Bombs!

Revenge of the Businessmen

Sport Sisters

Garden Girls



## Kerr PTO Treasurer Needed!

PTO Executive Board Vacancy — the Kerr PTO board will need to appoint a treasurer to finish out the school year. Contact [president@kerrpto.org](mailto:president@kerrpto.org) if interested or with questions.