

Kerr Elementary School Newsletter



January 2019



A Monthly Newsletter

R E S P E C T I T Y

Volume 14 Issue 6

BREAKING NEWS!

RAPTOR
TECHNOLOGIES
THE GOLD STANDARD IN SCHOOL SAFETY

Raptor Visitor Sign-In System

Fox Chapel Area School District will begin using a new **MANDATORY** sign-in procedure on January 7, 2019. The sign-in procedure is outlined below:

- ID scanned into Raptor
- A visitor badge will be printed from Raptor
- When leaving the building, please return your visitor badge to the office.

**** Please note:** Your ID only needs to be scanned one time and then on return visits, please just state your name.



PITTSBURGH
PUBLIC
THEATER
Great Job!



A number of our students in grades 4 & 5 participated in Creative Dramatics once again this year. Our students partnered with Miller African-Centered School to perform Shakespeare's play, *The Tempest*. Students were challenged to perform without elaborate sets or costumes, and rely on their imagination and acting ability to create the world of the play. Our students learned many techniques and exercises over the past twelve weeks to help them prepare to take the *The Tempest* and move it into the realm of imagination. The students from Kerr and Miller did a fantastic job and we are proud! A special thanks to Mrs. Hackett, Mrs. Hess, and Mrs. Yeager for overseeing our students and helping them to achieve their goals. I want to thank Morgaine Dudek, Aavree Hill, Adeline Moritz, Bailey Mack, Sabina Mantella, Adison Rimer, Naudia Boyle, Will Walker, Ricki Combes, Gracee Salac, Logan Shirk, and Maliah Robinson for representing Kerr Elementary School.



Principal's 100 Club Winners

Ten of our Kerr Elementary School students became 100 Club Winners this month. The students were first chosen randomly from our grade level mailboxes, and then when we achieved 10 students in a row we celebrate their accomplishment of demonstrating Respect, Responsibility, and Integrity. This time, we purchased sports balls (basketballs, playground balls, soccer balls, etc.) for each of them, provided University of Pittsburgh and Kerr Elementary School T-Shirts, and finished up with a pizza party! We are already looking forward to celebrating our next 100 Club Winners!!!



Kids of STEEL Program

We are excited to share that Kerr Elementary is participating in the **Kids of STEEL Program** from P3R, a nonprofit organization that is passionate about promoting the love of running and enhancing community access to health & fitness education and activities.

Don't miss your spot at the start line! [Registration for the Toyota of Pittsburgh Kids Marathon is open and filling quickly!](#) The race on Saturday May 4, 2019 is open to children in grades K - 6th.

To sign up visit the Pittsburgh Marathon's website, click on the "Register Today" and select Toyota of Pittsburgh Kids Marathon & Kids of STEEL. One adult can run for free with each child on race day. There is a field on the form where you can enter the name of the adult participating.

To sign up please visit ...

<https://www.thepittsburghmarathon.com/kidsmarathon>
(Look for the Chick-fil-A Pittsburgh Kids Marathon)

If your child does not want to race but would like to train at Kerr on Tuesdays and Thursdays, please sign up at...

<https://kidssteel.org/KOSprogram>

Starting on February 5th, we will be holding training sessions for participants from 8:30 to 9. Training sessions will be every Tuesday and Thursday. Upon arrival to school, participants should report to the gym after they check in with their homeroom teacher.

**Thanks,
Ms. Roman & Mr. Strzempek**



Pictures from Kids of STEEL 2018



QUEST Kickoff Event

Our QUEST students' visited *Inventionland* this past month with students across our district to engage in an engineering design challenge to kick off the next QUEST Capstone, Innovative Inquiry, which was titled, **The Give a Dog a Bone Design Challenge**. Over the next several weeks, students will partake in a series of additional engineering design challenges before coming back together in February for a district-wide culminating event.



Kerr Chorus & Community Outreach

During the month of December, students and staff at Kerr Elementary School raise money for Make A Wish. Our Kerr Elementary School staff also reaches out to help seniors and families through donations and in other special ways. One of the ways that we reach out to members of our community is by sending our Kerr Chorus to senior citizen homes to perform. It is one of the most special events of the school year. Special thanks to Ms. Ehman and our Kerr Chorus for their hard work and preparation.



Fox Chapel Area School District's

Pre-Kindergarten Program



We are located at:
Kerr Elementary School
341 Kittanning Pike
Pittsburgh, PA 15215

Accepting 4-year-old applicants who meet all of the requirements.

Must be 4 years old on or before September 1st.

Family income of no more than 300% of the federal poverty guidelines.

Must provide transportation.

Must be toilet-trained.

School Times
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

5 days a week.

Breakfast, lunch, and a snack provided daily.

Now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year.

Enrollment window open from January 2 to February 28, 2019.

Go to prek.fcasd.edu to download the application OR
Call 412-967-2455 for an application.

For more information please contact
Dr. Ashley Constantine at
ashley_constantine@fcasd.edu or
412-967-2411.

****Program Philosophy****

The FCASD Pre-K Program is designed to promote positive approaches to learning.

These areas include designing supportive classroom environments; strengthening social, emotional, and behavioral skills in students; and working collaboratively with families.

Our approach is also aligned to the outcomes set by the Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards and is designed to maximize students' academic learning, achievement, and growth.

Kerr Makerspace Consumable Drive

Next year, the new Kerr will have its own Makerspace in which students will have the opportunity to discover, collaborate and create. Makerspaces rely heavily on the usage of consumable materials. I am hoping if we start collecting this year, our Makerspace will be stocked and ready for next school year. Below is a list of items I am 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 Computer Lab.



Thanks for your support,
Mr. Strzempek



Flat Empty Cereal Boxes



Yarn, String, Thread and Rubber Bands



Gift, Paper Towel and Toilet Paper Tubes



Felt or Fabric Scraps



Plastic Bottles, Bottle Caps and Corks



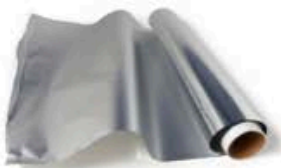
Unwanted Art and Craft Supplies



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!

Quest/E-ELA Capstone Author Share @ Kerr Elementary School

A group of Kerr students recently became published authors! Representatives from the children's department of the Cooper-Siegel Library presented students with the opportunity to write books of varied genres in order to provide more selections written by young authors for community members to enjoy. This project was a component of the Creative Connections Capstone for QUEST and E-ELA students in grades 2-5. This Capstone experience gives students an authentic, interdisciplinary experience to explore a creative writing avenue and engage in critical thinking and communication skills. The unit culminated with an Author's Share Event held December 13th in which student authors read an excerpt of their book and signed copies for parents and administrators. If you are interested in seeing their impressive work, the books are now available at both the Kerr Library and Cooper-Siegel Library.



JANUARY Dates to Remember

- January 2** - Students first day back from Winter Break
- January 10-17** - Kerr PTO Used Book Collection 8:30-9:00 A.M.
- January 16** - Kerr PTO Meeting - Conference Room - 6:15 P.M.
- January 17** - End of Second Grading Period
- January 17** - Hartwood Elem. & Kerr Elem. Beginning Strings Concert - Hartwood Elem. Gym - 7:00 P.M.
- January 18** - NO SCHOOL - Teacher Clerical Day
- January 21** - SCHOOL IN SESSION - Kerr Make Up Day - Normal Schedule
- January 22-25** - Kerr PTO Used Book Sale
- January 25** - Report Cards Available Online - PowerSchool
- January 28** - Kerr PTO After School @ Kerr (ASK) Begins
- January 31** - Kerr Elem. Math Pentathlon Practice - 3:45-4:45 p.m.

Author Visit to Kerr

On December 4th, we had a visit from Christine Petrell Kallevig, an award-winning author and professional storyteller. Christine told stories using origami. At the end of each presentation, the students were given directions to make an origami project. Since then, origami has been quite popular!



Another Successful Kerr McTeacher Night

On Thursday, December 13th Kerr Elementary School held its annual McTeacher Night. This year, the money made from the event supported our district fundraiser, Make A Wish. We had such a great turnout from the Kerr community that we were able to raise over \$500!!!

Thanks to everyone who joined our team that night!



JOIN OUR TEAM! 😊

Permanent, part-time positions available in the Fox Chapel Area School District Cafeterias.

- The hourly start rate is \$10.00 per hour. PLUS a \$250 sign on Bonus.
- Must secure or possess current PA Child Abuse History, PA Criminal Record Check, and PA Dept. of Education FBI Background Check.
- Please contact the Nutrition Center at 412-967-4409. EOE.