

John F. Kennedy Middle School – January 23, 2026



Good afternoon, Families,

Today is the last day of our second quarter/first semester. Can you believe we are halfway through the 2025-2026 school year? It's been a wonderful first half, and I'm excited for the great work to continue. Students are engaging in their learning, and the energy in the building is positive and productive. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Academics



Report cards will be available on eSchool and mailed home next week (1/28). Please review these with your child. Any student who is placed on academic probation or ineligibility will receive a separate letter. This restricts their ability to participate in sports, drama, and after-school activities. If your child is struggling in any classes, we have opportunities for academic support. Mrs. Ruffner, in our Academic Learning Center (ALC), is available to students during study halls and after school from Monday through Thursday. A late bus is provided. Mrs. Ruffner (cruffner@cheektowagasloan.org) is a critical resource. Please reach out to her directly with any questions. All students who achieved Honor Roll or High Honor Roll for the 2nd quarter are invited to a student-only Honors Breakfast as recognition of their efforts. Congratulations!

School-wide Updates



National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) will sponsor our Peace and Kindness week from Monday, February 9th, through Friday, February 13th. During the first two weeks of February, students in our NJHS are selling "hugs and kisses" for \$2.00 during lunches. The treats will be delivered on Friday, February 13th. We invite parents to purchase "hugs and kisses" as a surprise for their child. Team leaders will send order forms to all families via the Remind app. Peace and Kindness Week promotes and celebrates a spirit of kindness and compassion and aligns with our school-wide anti-bullying initiative. Students can shout out their peers for contributing to a positive school community, being an upstander in the face of bullying, and role modeling for others. Peer recognition forms can be turned in to the main office or our School Social Worker, Ms. Meyers (jmeyers@cheektowagasloan.org).

The National Junior Honor Society is proud to present
JFK Middle School Peace and Kindness Week
February 9th – 13th



Monday, February 9th is "Stranger Things Day"

- Character Trait is **"Loyalty"** & **"Acceptance"**
- Dress in 80's inspired outfits to help fight the demogorgons
"As long as we accept this, and face ourselves—the good and bad—we can get better."



Tuesday, February 10th is "Twin Day"

- Character Trait is **"Friendship"**
- Dress the same as your friend. Wear matching hoodies, the same shoes, or even style your hair the same way




Wednesday, February 11th is "Role Reversal Day"



- Character Trait is **"Empathy"**
- Put yourself in someone else's shoes. Students dress like teachers and teachers dress like students.



Thursday, February 12th is to celebrate "Valentine's Day"

- Character Trait is **"Love"** 
- Wear **Red** or **Pink** in honor of Valentine's Day.



Friday, February 13th is "Comfy Cozy Day"

- Character Trait is **"Comfort"**
- Cozy up by wearing pajama pants and your fluffiest fleece. Sorry, NO blankets allowed though!



Attendance



I'm happy to report that we are currently averaging a daily attendance rate of 90%. This reflects an improvement from last year and is a positive step forward; however, there is still important work to be done. Students must be on time every day. Morning arrival takes place between 8:00 AM and 8:07 AM. Students who arrive late miss important morning announcements and instructional time, which can lead to confusion and missed coursework.

Regular attendance is a critical component of student success. Students who attend school each day demonstrate higher academic achievement, experience fewer learning gaps, and develop positive connections to school. Consistent attendance also supports stronger social-emotional skills and meaningful relationships with teachers and peers. Thank you for making this a priority!

Reminders



I hope everyone is staying safe and warm during this winter season. Please make sure your child comes to school dressed appropriately in a warm jacket with a scarf, hat, gloves, and boots. This ensures a safe arrival and dismissal from school.

Thank you for supporting our modified basketball concessions and hat day fundraisers. All money raised supports school-wide programming such as Level Up, prizes, dance supplies, and much, much more! Please continue checking our [daily announcements](#) for updates and information.

If you haven't done so yet, please order your child's 2025-2026 yearbook. They are on sale for \$30. There are only 60 books left, so reserve your copy today. We cannot order extra books. The price goes up to \$35 on February 1st.

THE 2026 YEARBOOK

Jostens



Everyone belongs in the
John F. Kennedy Middle School yearbook.

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[JOSTENS.COM/BUYYEARBK](https://jostens.com/buyyearbk)



SCAN



CALL

1 (877) 767-5217
8 A.M. - 5 P.M. CST MONDAY-FRIDAY

Order your yearbook at the lowest price, \$30! Prices go up on February 1st to \$35.

Be sure to order your yearbook today.
Yearbooks will be delivered in early June of this year and cover content September through mid-April.



Upcoming Spirit Days



Monday, January 26th - Class Color Day



Friday, January 30th - Buffalo Sabres Spirit Day



Friday, February 6th - Winter Olympic Kick Off Day - Team USA - Red, White, and Blue



Monday, February 9th - Friday, February 13th - Peace and Kindness Week (*see flyer*)

Monday, February 16th - Friday, February 20th - Mid-winter recess - NO SCHOOL

Thursday, February 26th - Class Color Day



Friday, February 27th - Buffalo Sabres Spirit Day



Friday, February 27th - Hat Day Fundraiser (\$1.00)



Friday, February 27, 2026 - GLOW Dance - 5 PM - 7 PM- JFK Cafeteria



Best,

Mr. Christopher Farrell, Principal, *John F. Kennedy Middle School*