



Dear John F. Kennedy Middle School Families,

I hope everyone is doing well. We've enjoyed sunny Fall days and cool temperatures. It's the perfect weather for taking walks, hiking, and observing the changing foliage. I encourage families to get outside and spend quality time together, as this can reduce anxiety and stress while building a strong familial foundation.

Last week concluded the first 5-weeks of the year. Progress reports are live and accessible via the parent portal. Please take time to read your child's progress report, and reach out if you have questions or concerns. Our grade-level teams have designated team meetings where they can meet with parents/families in person or virtually. Please take advantage of this opportunity to ensure your child is meeting expectations and making the appropriate progress. You can schedule a meeting with your child's grade level team leader.

6th Grade Team Leader- Mrs. Megan Zoladz

MZoladz@cheektowagasloan.org

7th Grade Team Leader- Mrs. Sarah Borowiec

SBorowiec@cheektowagasloan.org

8th Grade Team Leader- Mr. Timothy Miller

TMiller@cheektowagasloan.org

Special Areas Team Leader- Mrs. Sheri Sante

SSante@cheektowagasloan.org

Our Fall sports season is coming to an end. It was fantastic seeing so many students participate. Sports are a positive way to build relationships, set and manage goals, and collaborate with others toward a shared purpose. Thank you to our families for supporting our athletes. Whether this included driving them to and from practice, cheering them on at games/matches, or purchasing snacks from our concession stand, your partnership is integral to our overall success. I encourage all students to try out for a winter sport. Information will be shared in PE classes and via our morning announcements.

A big congratulations goes out to our students who acted on stage in the Fall Play, *Animal Farm*. This requires the dedication and practice of learning lines and working with castmates. It builds confidence and develops emotional intelligence. We hope to see our middle schoolers in the upcoming winter production, *Peter Pan*!

Our after-school activities are underway, including extracurricular clubs such as Yearbook, Art, and Student Council and our Academic Learning Center (ALC). Information about clubs are posted daily on our [daily announcements](#). The ALC is open after school from Monday through Thursday, and there is a student late bus. This resource is an opportunity for any student to work quietly in a small group setting while receiving immediate feedback and support from Mrs. Ruffner. I encourage all families to connect with Mrs. Ruffner, CRuffner@cheektowagasloan.org, and take advantage of this important opportunity.

Next week is our annual Red Ribbon Week. This is the nation's largest and longest-running drug use prevention campaign in the United States. It's important to educate our middle school students as they may experience peer pressure, stress, and experimentation with alcohol, nicotine, or drugs. Thank you for communicating with your child about the importance of making positive and healthy choices. Please read through our Red Ribbon Week flyer. We're excited to see students participate in our special spirit days.

Friday, October 30th, 2026, is our annual Halloween celebration. We have a costume parade and costume contest where grade-level costume winners are chosen. As a reminder, all costumes must be school-appropriate and cannot include masks. Additionally, students must come to school dressed in their costumes. This includes any face paint or makeup. Students will not be permitted to put on costumes or makeup throughout the day. Thank you for reading this month's newsletter, and please reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mr. Farrell



Please see below for our upcoming Spirit Days



Wednesday, November 4th - Class Color Day 

Class colors followed the students

6th grade - Red

7th grade - Green

8th grade - Blue

Friday, November 6th - Buffalo Sabres Blue and Gold Spirit Day 

Monday, November 9th - Buffalo Bills Spirit Day 

Tuesday, November 10th - Red, White, and Blue Spirit Day in honor of Veterans' Day 

Wednesday, November 11th - NO SCHOOL in observance of Veterans' Day

Friday, November 13th - Buffalo Bills Spirit Day 

Red Ribbon Week



October 26th–30th



What is it?

Red Ribbon Week is held every October and it is the longest running campaign in the United States to bring awareness to drug and violence prevention. This years theme is **“Make a Difference. Be a Hero. Stay Drug Free.”**

What is the goal?

Educates students about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco, smoking, and other illicit drugs while promoting a healthy drug free life style.

What are we doing?

Spirit week (see the next flyer for themed days)

Discussing ways we can fulfill our goals with a healthy lifestyle

Giving out red ribbon stickers on 10/26/26

~ Thank you ~

Red Ribbon Week



October 26th–30th



Monday 10/26: Wear Red

Everyone wear red to show we are united and committed to staying drug-free!

Tuesday 10/27: Be comfortable being yourself

Wear pajama's or comfortable clothing while we reflect on confidence and saying no to peer pressure

Thursday 10/29: Team Up Against Drugs

Wear your favorite teams gear to symbolize how we can support one another in making good choices!

Friday 10/30: Say BOO! To Drugs

Wear your Halloween costume! Please make sure it is school appropriate (no weapons)!