

KNIGHTS



Kingsley Knights Newsletter

December 2009

Kingsley School...A community of learners building an excellent education year after year!

From the Desk of Dr. Lindvall...

During the months of December and January, the school-wide mission focus will be encouraging students to become collaborative workers. With a little bit of planning, almost any project, chore, game, or activity can be structured to provide an opportunity for collaboration. For example, as you make your winter break plans, please think about how adding the element of collaboration could help build some wonderful childhood memories. A couple of simple ideas to help you get started thinking along these lines are listed here for your consideration:

- (1) playing a board game as partners
- (2) making some holiday gifts in an assembly line
- (3) writing a letter to friends with a paragraph written by each family member
- (4) baking a special dessert
- (5) planning a special meal with input from each family member

We would also ask you to join us in highlighting the many benefits of collaboration, which include building meaningful relationships, generating more ideas to solve a problem, providing opportunities to use individual strengths to complete a task, and sharing the workload so a task can be accomplished in a timely manner. I look forward to the results of our combined efforts to highlight the benefits and make deliberate plans to add collaboration to our day-to-day lives.

Kingsley School Mission Statement

The mission of Kingsley School is to create a nurturing community in which students can learn to be self-directed learners, collaborative workers, complex thinkers, quality producers and community contributors.

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Used Book Sale

Volunteers are needed to help with setup on Jan. 27, during the sale on Jan. 28 and clean up on Jan. 29.

Contact Gina Cox, 630-357-5352

It's a Kingsley Knight

Volunteers are needed to help during the event on Feb. 6. Please sign up on the Volunteer Opportunity flyer.

It's a Kingsley Knight

Volunteers are needed to help shop for and assemble class raffle basket items. This work is done prior to the event.

Contact Sherri Swanson at amsmomof3@comcast.net.

Thank You!

A decorative ribbon graphic with a central rectangular box containing the text "Thank You!". The ribbon has a 3D effect with a shadow and is flanked by two pointed ends that resemble ribbon tails. The entire graphic is centered within a large rectangular frame.

Grand Friends Day was held November 13 when Kingsley hosted a special time devoted to grandparents, or “grand friends” of the family. More than 190 grand friends accompanied their kindergarten, first or second grade student to school. Thank you to committee chairs Karen Purl and Lee Ann Nasman, as well as their wonderful group of volunteers: Dawn Alpern, Nancy Bjerga, Holly Bricker, Helen Brooks, Jodi Buettner, Crystal Busch, Haley Cliffe, Meg Collins, Carol Duncan, Wendy Fornek, Helene Jacques, Lisa Johnson, Teri Lienau, Yukiko Meldrum, Connie Murphy, Melissa Recka, Beth Szymanski, Ken Urbanski, and Stephanie Voyls. Also a big thank you to the teachers, custodians and staff who helped this day to run smoothly!

Fall Fundraiser pickup ran efficiently thanks to the volunteers who helped unpack the orders and distribute them, including Wendy Fornek, Lee Ann Nasman, Holly Bricker, Crystal Busch, Shuqin Du, Elaine Kalantzis, Sue Vorderer, Sheri Walsh and Laura Wilcox. Thank you to the custodians and front office staff as well for their contributions. And most of all, thank you to everyone who placed an order or made a donation to support our great school! Please remember that anyone can continue to order on-line at www.GASchoolStore.com/onlineportal, throughout the year, using our school ID 1037506. Orders of \$60 or more receive free shipping. Thanks again for supporting Kingsley!



The Inside Scoop

Bus Safety

During the month of November students participated in a bus safety assembly with students acting out many of the expectations for morning pick-up including being on time, standing away from the curb, lining up in a single file, waiting until the bus comes to a complete stop, grabbing the handrail and respecting the "Danger Zone." We also reviewed the expectations for the bus ride which include going directly to your seat, facing forward, remaining in your seat while the bus is in motion, talking and laughing quietly, keeping the aisles clear of everything, not eating or drinking and following the bus driver's directions. We ended the session with the expectations for the afternoon drop off which include waiting for the bus driver's signals, respecting the "Danger Zone," going home immediately and telling the bus driver or parent if there is a problem.

We would appreciate your follow-up by asking your children to reflect on how they can contribute to the safety and enjoyment of their bus ride. Some reflection items to consider are

1. I will start . . . 2. I will stop . . . 3. I will help . . .

Box Tops for Education

November Grade Level Contest Winner to be Announced Soon!

Attention to all students and parents! Are you saving all those box tops in your cupboards? Well here is a way for you to purge them from your home. Starting sending them in with your child in their backpacks to put in the grade level collection area. Please bag them and indicate the total number in each bag.

Please remember this is the simplest way to raise funds Kingsley School. It requires minimal effort and no soliciting. This is a great opportunity for the working family who has no time to volunteer. Have your children look at their cereal boxes, recycling and the pantry to find those box tops. Each box top is worth 10 cents. Our goal is to raise \$1,500 by the end of the school year. Visit **BOX-TOPS4EDUCATION.COM** for a product list, **COUPONS** for products and newsletters with recipes each month.

Kingsley is having a contest to see which grade level can turn in the most box tops each month. The winning grade will help decide on a reward. The winning grade level is announced at the beginning of each month. So get all those Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, Girlfriends and Neighbors to collect box tops too! Contact Michelle Crebo at 630-369-4919 with questions.



IT'S A KINGSLEY KNIGHT

A Social Fundraiser at the DuPage Children's Museum
Saturday, February 6, 2010, 6:30 – 9:30pm

Please mark your calendars for the evening of February 6 to attend *It's A Kingsley Knight!* This evening of fun and fundraising will be held at the DuPage Children's Museum, reserved solely for Kingsley. Enjoy museum activities, entertainment, snacks, raffle and silent auction areas. Sign up on the Volunteer Opportunities flyer to help on event day. Tickets will be available before and after the Winter Programs, as well as via backpack mail.

Before event day, we will need help putting together raffle baskets. Money has been collected, but we need volunteers to purchase age-appropriate items for the baskets and assemble them in a nice presentation. If you would like to help with raffle baskets, please contact Sherri Swanson at amsmomof3@comcast.net. Additionally, if you or your business would like to make a donation to help with the fundraising for this event, please contact Liz Renc at liz_renc@ipds.org.

Winter Chill! Winter Program



Tuesday, December 15th and Wednesday, December 16th

Two Performances Each Day in Kingsley's Gym

Performances begin with Band or Orchestra

A.M. Performance 8:30 P.M. Performance 12:30

Vocal Performances start approximately at 9:00 am and 1:00 pm
(The same schedule will be followed on both days)

Morning Performances

4th Grade Band on Tuesday AM

No Instrumental on Wednesday AM

Afternoon Performances

5th Grade Band on Tuesday PM

4th & 5th Grade Strings on Wednesday PM

5th Grade: **Mrs. Bachar's Class**
Mrs. Skubisz's Class

5th Grade: **Mrs. Ricca's Class**
Mrs. Schmitt's Class

4th Grade: **Mr. Dlabal's Class**
Mrs. Pligge's Class

4th Grade: **Ms. Mougette's Class**
Mrs. Sardone's Class

3rd Grade: **Mrs. Hawley's Class**
Mrs. Mackall's Class

3rd Grade: **Mrs. Guenther's Class**

2nd Grade: **Mrs. Harring's Class**

2nd Grade: **Mrs. Klenner's Class**
Mrs. Phillips' Class

1st Grade: **Ms. Brenner's Class**
Mrs. Larson's Class

1st Grade: **Mrs. Cunningham's Class**

Kindergarten: **Mrs. Carlson's A.M. Class**

Kindergarten: **Mrs. Carlson's P.M. Class**
Mrs. Litman's P.M. Class

Specific Details for Family Tickets

The Kingsley Winter Program has taken place each and every year. It's important to continue this wonderful tradition but space for performances is very limited. In order to ensure a safe environment for audience and performers, we must limit distribution of tickets as follows:

- Your family will be given 2 tickets for each performance in which your children will be appearing. For example, if you have 2 children performing in both the morning and afternoon show, you will get two tickets for the morning performance and two tickets for the afternoon performance on the appropriate day.
- All tickets will be sent home with students on Tuesday, December 1st.
- Each family member, no matter what age, must have a ticket. (We respectfully request no strollers in the gym on performance days.) If you are in real need of an extra ticket, we will have a small number available. Please send a written request to Dr Lindvall via your child's homeroom teacher no later than November 23rd. If you will not use both of your tickets please send any you don't need back to school.
- Tuesday's performance tickets will be distributed to families whose last names begin with the letter M through Z.
- Wednesday's tickets will be distributed to families whose last names begin with the letter A through L.
- If your child is performing in the instrumental portion of the show on a day which does not coincide with his or her vocal performance, you have the option of requesting a special ticket for the instrumental portion of the performance in which your child is appearing.

**From the Office of the Assistant Principal
Mrs. Suzanne Salness**

Update on Student Council Activities:

Schedule of Kingsley Spirit Days - Students who choose to participate in Kingsley Spirit Days are asked to bring in 10-15 cents for each spirit day. The money raised goes towards supporting a variety of charities as well as our own Brave Knights Fund. In addition to these themed days, Student Council voted to have a Kingsley Wear or Kingsley Color day once per month. We will be collecting 10-15 cents on each of those days as well. Please check the school calendar or student council announcement for those dates.

Spirit Day	Theme
Friday, November 19, 2009	Sport Day
Friday, December 11, 2009	Favorite Holiday Day
Friday, January 22, 2010	Crazy Hair Day
Friday, February 12, 2010	Disco/Hippi Day
Friday, March 19, 2010	Board Game Day
Friday, April 9, 2010	Twin Day
Friday, May 14, 2010	Favorite Book Day

Thus far, Student Council has supported Support Our Troops and The Heavenly Hats Foundation. Students voted to use future funds to support local area PADS groups and St. Luke's Children's Hospital. Each month the Kingsley Student Council will participate and facilitate a community contributor project. In December, Student Council members will be selling student-created holiday cards which will be sold during the Holiday Store on Dec. 5th. Profits from this sale will be donated to the Brave Knights Fund. Stop by the Kingsley main hallway and check out the new Student Council poster created by our Vice President, Carly Pomeroy!

Kingsley Children's Used Book Sale: Thursday, January 28 (8am-8pm)

Seller sign-up: Thursday, January 14 (2pm-6pm)

Seller receiving: Wednesday, January 27 (1:30pm-8pm)

Take advantage of winter break to clean out those bookshelves, basements, and closets! Please set aside any gently used items that your children have outgrown. We will accept a wide variety of children's educational items, including gently used children's books (pre-school thru 8th grade), G-rated movies, computer software, puzzles, games, flashcards, etc.

Volunteers receive 70% of the sale price; others receive 60%; the rest goes to Kingsley Home & School. We have many volunteers that have already committed to helping at the sale, but we could use more help! Please consider one or more shifts during these times: Wednesday, January 27 for set-up (afterschool/evening), Thursday, January 28 during the sale (morning, afternoon, or evening), Friday, January 29 for clean-up (morning). This is also a great opportunity for any siblings that are middle school or high school students to earn community service hours. Please call Gina Cox (630-357-5352) or Lynn Seilinger (630-305-8513) with any questions or to volunteer.

Kingsley Home & School Meetings

Kingsley Home & School meetings are held on Tuesdays and all parents and guardians of Kingsley students are invited to attend. This year, we hope to see you attend at least one Home & School meeting and we have varied the meeting times to hopefully make that possible. At daytime meetings, children are welcome and a tot-friendly video will be shown. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 12, at 6:30 pm.

Accelerated Reader has its First Gold Stars!

How exciting to have our first Gold Star readers for the 09-10 school year! Three Kingsley Knights earned their awards this past month and have their school photos posted on a gold star in the LMC. You can be a part of Accelerated Reader too, if you haven't already, and start earning prizes. Once you've earned a gold star, you'll join other winners at the end of the school year for a celebration – Join Us!

Gold Star Earners:

Karthik Sreedhar (1 Larson)

Mitchell Zhen (2 Haring)

Nicole Donovan (5 Bachar)

The following are Top Point Earners for the month of October:

Kindergarten – Alina Khattak (Carlson –pm)

1st grade – Karthik Sreedhar (Larson)

2nd grade – Amanda Laurinec (Klenner)

3rd grade – Ryan Renc (Hawley)

4th grade – Kaylyn Walsh (Pligge)

5th grade – Nicole Donovan (Bachar)



LOST AND FOUND

Please remind your child to check the Lost and Found for missing items. All items will be on display tables in the office hallway during the winter program for your examination. After winter break, unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

Transforming Our Teaching through Reading to Understand

Transforming Our Teaching through Reading to Understand is a literacy professional development program that has been implemented into all fourteen Elementary Schools in District 203. The program was developed by Regie Routman. Regie is a respected teacher and author who conducts full-day workshops for educators and speaks at major educational conferences. This full-year staff development includes 14 Project Sessions that will provide our teachers with a common purpose, process, and language to span across the grades. Each session includes teacher discussions of professional readings related to the previous session, professional conversations and reflections of new ideas implemented into their classroom, DVD video segments of Regie modeling lessons, and activities to implement directly into their classrooms.

At Kingsley we conduct the Reading to Understand Sessions on Teacher Institute Days, Collaboration Days, and Professional Learning Community meetings after school. We have already completed six sessions of our Staff Development. Regie has shown us: how to apply an Optimal Learning Model, we examined “our” beliefs about reading to understand, she demonstrated how to share our reading life with our students, helping students to choose just-right books, and how to conduct informal reading conferences. Although this information isn't new to our staff, it is providing a springboard for conversation. Our goal at Kingsley is to ensure that all students become confident self-directed readers.

Kingsley's Brave Knights

Check out the Brave Knights Bulletin Board in the lobby! We have posted our upcoming events and "Giving Tree" information on the board. We are once again collecting gift cards for our Brave Knight families. Please choose a denomination that suits your family. Donations will be divided up and distributed to our Brave Knight families in time for everyone to have a Happy Holiday! You will also find information on service opportunities. These are a great way to fulfill any hours required by Girls Scouts, Boy Scouts, religious education classes or just a wonderful way for you and your family to spend some non-commercial, time together sharing your time and talents. As the year draws to an end we'd like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Holiday season and thank you for your continued support!

Sincerely, Teri Lienau and Kathy Schank



From the Office of the Assistant Principal Mrs. Suzanne Salness

Social Emotional Learning Goals:

Kingsley Staff have been discussing and implementing lessons and objectives which focus on the state Social Emotional Learning Standards. Our efforts have focused on making connections between the SEL standards and our District Mission Strands. During a recent in-service session, teachers identified classroom routines and activities that promote growth for students in the area of social emotional learning.

Listed below are the three overarching goal areas for the Social Emotional Learning Standards. As you can see, they align closely to the mission strands of developing self-directed learners, collaborative workers, community contributors, quality producers and complex thinkers.

Goal 1: Develop self-awareness and **self-management skills** to achieve school and life success.

Goal 2: Use social-awareness and interpersonal skills to establish and maintain **positive relationships**.

Goal 3: Demonstrate decision-making skills and **responsible behaviors** in personal, school, and community contexts.

It is our hope that you will partner with us developing both academic and social emotional skills as you work to provide support for your students at home.

Smartboard Update

Are you smarter than a Smartboard? The 4th graders are using this technology in many areas of the curriculum. We take daily attendance, fill out our assignment notebooks, do our daily math review and manipulate our southeast states. We continue to develop and share lessons across the district. This is helping us to be self-directed learners. We certainly aren't getting "bored!"

December Calendar 2009

- Dec. 1 Before School Sports (Grade 5 Boys)
Tickets for the Winter Program come home today
- Dec. 2 Before School Sports (Grade 4 Girls)
Chess Tournament – All students attend
- Dec. 3 Before School Sports (Grade 4 Boys)
Grade 5 attends NCHS Play
Market Day Pick – Up 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
- Dec. 4 Poinsettia Order Pick-Up 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.
- Dec. 5 Holiday Store & Marketplace 8:30 – 12:00
- Dec. 7 Before School Sports (Grade 4 Girls)
- Dec. 8 Before School Sports (Grade 4 Boys)
- Dec. 14 Dress Rehearsal for Winter Program
Young Knight's Book Club 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. (Gr. 4 & 5)
- Dec. 15, 16 Winter Program 8:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.
- Dec. 17 Whiskers & Tails Club 2:30 – 3:45 p.m.
- Dec. 18 Winter Parties
9:30 – 10:15 a.m. – AM Kdg.
10:30 – 11:15 a.m. – Grades 1-5
1:30 – 2:15 p.m. – PM Kdg.
- Dec. 21 – January 1 Winter Break
Jan. 4 School Resumes



Save the date ...

- **Thursday, January 28:** Used Book Sale, 8:00 A.M.—8:00 P.M.
- **Saturday, February 6:** It's A Kingsley Knight, A night of fun, food, and fundraising! DuPage Children's Museum, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm
- **Thursday, April 22:** Kingsley 20th Anniversary Celebration