

Kennard CJA

St. Louis Public Schools

12/13/2016

Dr. Wanda LeFlore, Principal

Principal's Monthly Message



Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis (The Club) are providing chess programs to Saint Louis Public Schools at no cost to the district. As a result, chess classes will be offered to Kennard students during the school day so that more students can participate. This pilot program will begin in January for all students in grades 1 thru 4. The chess schedule will align with the drama schedule so that there is minimum interruption to the regular schedule. Students will learn the fundamentals of chess that promote essential academic skills. The 50 minute classes will consist of both interactive lectures and practice play.



Kennard's chapter of the (NEHS) will be providing applications to qualified students in January. Our chapter will recognize students for their outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated personal responsibility to provide meaningful service to the school and community. To be considered for placement in the NEHS a student must be in grades 4 or 5 with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5. Each candidate will also need a teacher or community leader recommendation of leadership potential. Contact 5th grade teacher Jennifer Beffa for additional information.



Upcoming Events

- Thursday, December 15, Music Concert
- Monday, December 19, Tiger Families Winter Wrap-up
- Thursday, December 22, Record Keeping [No School](#)
- December 23 – January 3 Winter Break [No School](#)
- Wednesday, January 4 [Classes Resume](#)
- Friday, January 6 Report Card Day
- Monday, January 16 MLK Holiday [No School](#)
- Friday, February 3 Interim Progress Report
- Friday, February 17 PD Day [No School](#)
- Monday, February 20 President's Day [No School](#)

The classroom winner of the **1st Semester Box Tops Contest** is room 106. Ms. Perniciaro's 3rd graders collected more than 1,200 box tops and earned a pizza party. The next contest begins in January 2017 and will include Tyson A+ labels. Sponsored by the PTO, and managed by Myra Belgeri and Jessica Shatto, box tops are collected to earn cash for our school. Congratulations!

Kennard Core Values: Thank you for your input as we continue to strengthen Kennard's Character Education initiative and include the voices of all of our stakeholders in our learning community. Parents, staff, and students participated in a survey to list the top five character traits that our learning community will focus on 2nd semester and that teachers will align to our 7 *Habits of Happy Kids* program. As soon as all surveys are tallied, the results will be shared.

Learning Garden: Thanks to the staff and families that came out to prepare Kennard's Learning Garden last month. Special thanks to the UMSL Extension and Margaret Grant for making our garden a reality! If you have suggestions or questions please contact Jamie Spitznagel at Jamie.spitznagel@slps.org or Alveta Nelson at Alveta.nelson@slps.org.



All 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students participated in the **Noetic Learning Math Contest** in November. The test consisted of 20 word problems and students were given 45 minutes to complete the contest questions. Students who scored the highest in each grade level will receive a medal. Students who scored in the top 10% nationally will also receive an "Honor Roll" medal. Feel free to visit the website for more information and sample questions.

<http://www.noeticlearning.com/mathcontest>

Fall 2016 results are:

- 2nd grade Joseph Passer
- 2nd grade Honor Roll winners: Richard Heidenry, Tommy Pitlyk, Travis Luth, Lucia Shayakmetova, Alex Obrien, Timothy O'Connell, Cameron Shatto, Lenore Upwood, Rohan Vora
- 3rd grade Alex Sullins, Logan Wolf
- 3rd grade Honor Roll Winners -Lucy Fuchs, Ben Koebbe
- 4th grade Alex Pantazopoulos
- 4th grade Honor Roll winner –Ben Keoshkerian
- 5th grade Aristuto Paul, Arnav Busani
- 5th grade Honor Roll Winners -Joshua Keoshkerian, Adrian Nguyen, Zukai Abuduwasiti

Annual Equations Tournament: Mr. Clement will sponsor Kennard's Annual 3rd, 4th, and 5th Grade Equations Tournament the last week before winter break. Equations is part of the math enrichment program at Kennard.

- The 3rd grade tournament will be held in the morning, December 20.
- The 5th grade tournament will be held in the afternoon, December 20.
- The 4th grade tournament will be held in the afternoon, December 21.

Thanks to Nick Clement, Kennard family volunteers, and SLPS Food Service for snacks!

3rd Grade Service Learning Projects: The 3rd graders in Ms. Perniciaro's room collected a "record-breaking" 3,358 food items for their annual service learning project. Students will visit Operation Food Search in January 2017, to learn more about the distribution process for their culminating activity. The class that donated the most food items and received special seating and recognition at the **106 Fight Hunger Can Stacking Contest** assembly was Ms. Recke's 3rd grade class. Thank you for your generous donations! This special event won the **2016 National Promising Practice Award in Character Education!** The banner honoring this event is posted in the main hall. Please contact Ms. Perniciaro for more details.

The 3rd Grade Annual Fall Bake Sale is postponed until spring 2017.

Reports Cards: Students will receive their 2nd Quarter Report Card on **Friday, January 6, 2017**. Please feel free to contact your child's teacher for additional information.

School Tours: Kennard offers guided school tours on Thursdays from September through April, beginning at 10:00am. The next tour is Thursday, December 15. Reservations are requested, but not required, if you attend on the tour date. Go to www.KennardTours@gmail.com to sign up. Feel free to share this information with interested families.



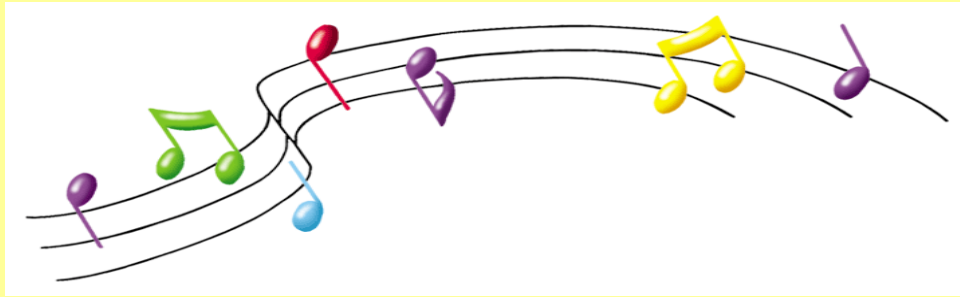
Kennard's 2017 Spelling Bee is Thursday, January 12 at 2:00pm in the gym. Two students from each 1st through 5th grade class will compete in the Spelling Bee. The winner of KCJA's bee will advance and compete in the written semi-final bee. Family and friends are welcome to attend this event! For more information, please contact Gifted Specialist, Laurie Batres.

University of Missouri Extension/Robotics: Beginning in January 2017, two new sessions of robotics will be offered at Kennard at 8:00am in the library.

- The **Introductory** class will meet on the following dates: **Monday:** January 9, 23, and 30; February 6, 13, and 27; March 6 and 13.

- The **Advanced** class will meet on the following dates: **Wednesday:** January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, and March 1.

If you would like for your child to participate, or you have questions, please contact Vince McKinney at mckinneyv@missouri.edu or by phone at 314-400-7375 or Bailey Lutz at lutzbn@missouri.edu .



Kennard's Winter Music Program: Don't miss being inspired by the music, a burst of COLOR, song, and dance that will make you smile! **On Thursday, December 15** you are welcome to attend and witness the entire student body dressed in their finest, brought together to share their delight for life through the arts.

- 10:30am Pre-School—Second Grade in the gym
- 6:30pm Third Grade—Fifth Grade in the gym

Winter Reading: Below are several sites to visit during Winter Break (or anytime) to foster reading and learning during the winter months recommended by Ms. Kukay, Kennard's librarian.

- Picture books: <http://www.carolhurst.com/subjects/winter.html#picturebooks>
- Novels: <http://www.carolhurst.com/subjects/winter.html#novels>
- Non-fiction: <http://www.carolhurst.com/subjects/winter.html#nonfiction>
- Ages 4-6: https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/24406.Winter_Children_s_Books

Keeping skills sharp over winter break:

- <http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/parent-child/keep-skills-sharp-during-winter-break>
- <http://www.greatschools.org/gk/articles/books-for-kids-grades-k-5/>

