



Kingston Elementary School

January 2018 Newsletter



From the Principal-

The end of the year is upon us - boy that was quick! I hope you all enjoy the holidays, winter break and have a Happy New Year! School will resume on January 8, 2018.

I have been hearing more and more about bullying. The definition of bullying is when a stronger, more powerful person hurts or frightens a smaller or weaker person deliberately (on purpose) and repeatedly (again and again). There are many myths about bullying. I have attached a "True or False?" handout that will expose some of the myths and help us start thinking about what bullying is and how it affects everyone. The answers and explanations are on the back. We are doing many activities to educate our students on bullying. We have monthly Second Steps lessons presented by our school Social Worker, and I have added information in the morning announcements. Many cases that we hear about at school are more of a disagreement, students fighting over a ball, or wanting to play with a group of kids and they say no, even though these examples can be hurtful, it is not bullying. Our students are still learning how to handle some of those basic social interactions.

We will have our winter benchmarking on Wednesday, January 17th through Friday, January 19th. For this assessment the students do 3 one-minute timings. This checks for fluency and even though we know that there is so much more to reading than just fluency, it gives us a quick check to see where students are. Please have your child continue to read every day over break to stay in practice. Those minutes can be used for the KES reading incentive as well as the Six Flags and/or Magic Waters reading programs.

The weather seems to be doing its usual fickle thing; 50 degrees on one day, freezing another day, snow on another day and rain on yet another day. In northern Illinois, we can even see all of this in one day. Please make sure your child has proper outside attire, boots, snow pants, hats, gloves/mittens, and a heavy coat. Also remember to send shoes to wear inside. Students will go outside if the temperature is 0 or above (this includes real feel.)

The 2nd Quarter report cards will be coming home on January 16th. We will have no school on January 12th for Teacher's Institute Day and then again on January 15th in remembrance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me anytime at 815-784-5246 or by email at shill@gkschools.org

Thank you for your support!
Stefanie Hill, Principal



Building Readers

Mrs. Whittenhall, Reading Specialist



January 2018

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815-784-5246 ext. 8110

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Reading Connections

Vocabulary Boosters

A large vocabulary can turn your child into a better reader and writer. Try these ways to learn new words.

*Read books "rich with vocabulary" and discuss or act out words your child does not already know.

*Listen for language in different environments: restaurants, dentist, ...

*Use words that enrich in your everyday language. Soar instead of fly, sprint instead of run, humungous instead of big ...

Retelling

Start with a book. Ask your child to pick a favorite book to read together. Read it out loud, then close the book and work together to tell the story in your own words. Encourage your child to add facial expressions and character voices.

Then, use a memory to retell a story that happened to you.

Fun With Words

Secret Messages

Write a mystery sentence using the first and last sounds in the words, leaving out some of the middle sounds and see if your child can solve it.

Examples: "C_n y_o r__d th_s?" (Can you read this?) or "L__'s p__y a g__e!" (Let's play a game!)

If she is stumped, have her go through the alphabet and try different letter combinations. Remind her that the message has to make sense. When she solves the mystery, let her write a secret message for you.

"I l__e y_u!"

Reminders

Second semester is typically when your child really starts to make gains as a reader. If you have questions or concerns about your child's reading. Please schedule a conference.





TRUE OR FALSE?

1. Bullying is just teasing. T F
2. Some people deserve to be bullied. T F
3. Only boys are bullies. T F
4. People who complain about bullies are babies. T F
5. Bullying is a normal part of growing up. T F
6. Bullies will go away if you ignore them. T F
7. All bullies have low self-esteem.
That's why they pick on other people. T F
8. It's tattling to tell an adult when you're being bullied. T F
9. The best way to deal with a bully
is by fighting or trying to get even. T F
10. People who are bullied might hurt for a while,
but they'll get over it. T F



Answers to TRUE OR FALSE?

- 1. Bullying is just teasing. FALSE**
Bullying is much more than teasing. While many bullies tease, others use violence, intimidation, and other tactics. Sometimes teasing can be fun; bullying *always* hurts.
- 2. Some people deserve to be bullied. FALSE**
No one ever deserves to be bullied. No one "asks for it." Most bullies tease people who are "different" in some way. Being different is not a reason to be bullied.
- 3. Only boys are bullies. FALSE**
It seems that *most* bullies are boys, but girls can be bullies, too.
- 4. People who complain about bullies are babies. FALSE**
People who complain about bullies are standing up for their right not to be bullied. They're more grown-up than the bullies are.
- 5. Bullying is a normal part of growing up. FALSE**
Getting teased, picked on, pushed around, threatened, harassed, insulted, hurt, and abused is *not* normal. Plus if you *think* it's normal, you're less likely to say or do anything about it, which gives bullies the green light to keep bullying.
- 6. Bullies will go away if you ignore them. TRUE and FALSE**
Some bullies might go away. But others will get angry and keep bullying until they get a reaction. That's what they want.
- 7. All bullies have low self-esteem. That's why they pick on other people. FALSE**
Some bullies have *high* self-esteem. They feel good about themselves, and picking on other people makes them feel even better. Most of the time, bullying isn't about high or low self-esteem. It's about having power over other people.
- 8. It's tattling to tell an adult when you're being bullied. FALSE**
It's smart to tell an adult who can help you do something about the bullying. It's also smart to tell an adult if you see someone else being bullied.
- 9. The best way to deal with a bully is by fighting or trying to get even. FALSE**
If you fight with a bully, you might get hurt (and hurt someone else). Plus you might get into trouble for fighting. If you try to get even, you're acting the same as the bully. And the bully might come after you again to get even with *you*. Either way only makes things worse.
- 10. People who are bullied might hurt for a while, but they'll get over it. FALSE**
Bullying hurts for a long time. Some kids have dropped out of school because of bullying. Some became so sad, desperate, afraid, and hopeless that they committed suicide. Many adults can remember times when they were bullied as children. People don't "get over" being bullied.



Early Childhood

We hope your family enjoyed a fun and relaxing winter break! We missed the students and are excited to get back to learning and fun!

AM Class Update

The morning class loves music & movement, blocks, and snack time! The students are really working on their speech and using 2-3 words per sentence.

PM Class Update

Ice painting was so much fun! The students loved painting and watching the ice cubes melt under warm water afterward! We also had fun mailing letters at the Kingston Post Office! The students waited their turn patiently, and were very respectful!





Kindergarten News Happy 2018!



Thank you to all of our parents for making Christmas parties so much fun! Our last week of school was packed full of Christmas activities and end of 2nd quarter assessments and learning. Your child will be receiving his/her first report card. Please help them feel positive with their learning and encourage and support them in the areas that are difficult. After each report card, you will need to return the EMPTY report card envelope with your signature on the appropriate quarter line.

The kindergarteners have been working hard on following Kingston's rules; **Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe**. We have also learned that each of us has a "Turbo Button" that we can "hit" when things get tough. We continue to try to replace the words "I can't " with "I can't yet, but will try my best". In December, Kindergarteners began to get Shout Outs when caught doing awesome behavior either individually or as a class!

The kindergarten teachers benchmarked all of their students in mid December. Guided reading groups will begin this month in all of the kindergarten classrooms. Guided reading groups give your child an opportunity to read with his/her teacher in a small group with peers who have similar reading skills. On the last day of January(1/31), we will be celebrating 100 Day in Kindergarten! It is a fun day of celebration! Students will be engaging in a variety of math and number activities.

Reminders

- Remember that students need hats, gloves, snow boots and snow pants to play in the snow at recess. If students do not have these items they will be expected to play on the black top section of the playground.
- Beginning the week of January 15th, students will be bringing home a weekly Blending Homework sheet. Please make sure your child practices with an adult or older sibling three different times before returning the initialed sheet to school. This activity is most beneficial when blending practice occurs on three different days.
- Please continue to pack **TWO** healthy snacks, separately from your child's lunch.
- Your child's teacher will be sending a note regarding how she will be doing quiet time and if students will need a rest towel for the week.
- Kindergarten Concert will be on Wednesday, April 18th at 7pm in the Genoa Kingston High School auditorium. Save the date!

First Grade January Newsletter

" 'Twas the night before Christmas
And all through the house
Not a creature was stirring..."

Oh! But they were! First graders were busy making and wrapping presents and decorating the halls and their classrooms with artwork for the season. Christmas is always an exciting time for six and seven year olds!

In social studies, first graders learned about the winter holiday celebrations of Christmas, Hanukkah, Las Posadas, and Kwanzaa. It was interesting to learn about these holiday celebrations.

In math, we have been working on Topic 5, Work with Addition and Subtraction Equations. Be sure to look over the math sheets that have been worked on in class to help reinforce what has been taught in class. Thank you for continued support with completing and returning math homework.

We are looking forward to our Winter Concert on Tuesday, January 23rd at 7:00. The concert will be held in the high school auditorium. The students have been working very hard to prepare for this special event.

Please continue to read at home. Daily practice helps to build up fluency and comprehension. Before, during and after reading, ask your child questions to help build up comprehension skills.

We would like to thank all the parents who have helped out with the classroom holiday parties so far this year. We really appreciate your help!

If you happen to see Santa, you might mention to him that glue sticks, crayons, and pencils make great stocking stuffers.

Happy Holidays!

SECOND GRADE



It was nice to see so many of you at our holiday concert. The children worked very hard to make it a wonderful evening. A special thank you to Mrs. Johnson! What fun!



Another **BIG** thank you goes to everyone who provided supplies and assistance for our Halloween and Christmas parties. Our volunteers were fantastic! They were a huge success and everyone had a great time. It is hard to believe we only have one holiday party left for the year.



Our math program continues to be challenging. As we work on new concepts, it is important that students know their addition and subtraction facts. Not knowing their facts can slow down their ability to see number relationships and do mental computation. If your child is struggling with math facts, please provide daily practice at home through the use of flashcards. If you do not have a set of flash cards, have your child make some using index cards. Making the flashcards will also be good fact practice.



Now is a good time to update classroom supplies. New pencils, glue sticks, crayons, markers, and take-home folders are probably needed. Please check with your child or his/her teacher.

Please make sure that your child has appropriate winter clothing including snow pants, a hat, gloves or mittens, and boots for playing outside. Please remember to label snow pants! Also, it is helpful to keep an extra pair of shoes at school during this time so that your child can easily change out of his or her boots and be more comfortable during the school day.



Looking for some fun science and social studies websites? Check out these fun links!



extremescience.com/index.html
[discoveryeducation.com/students/
mrnussbaum.com/](http://discoveryeducation.com/students/mrnussbaum.com/)
kids.usa.gov/social-studies/index.shtml
[socialstudiesforkids.com/
sites.google.com/site/gameonlearning/sci-elementary-games](http://socialstudiesforkids.com/sites.google.com/site/gameonlearning/sci-elementary-games)
sciencekids.co.nz/



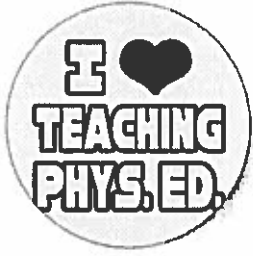
We continue to measure the reading fluency of all second graders. Our goal for reading fluency for the second quarter is 68 words per minute. For the third quarter the goal will be 79 words per minute, and the goal for the end of second grade is 90 words per minute. Please try to read with your child every day so that you can support your child in reaching these fluency goals.



Conferences will be scheduled in early February. We do not plan to meet with parents of all of our students. If your child's teacher does not schedule a conference and you would like to have one, please feel free to contact that teacher.

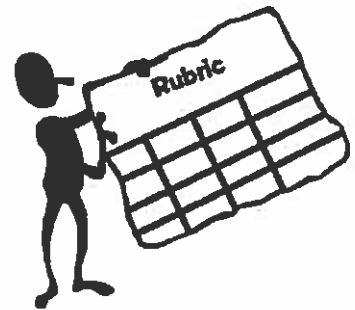


P.E.



I believe that the winter season may be upon us! Welcome back to the physical education portion of the Kingston Newsletter! As the weather has gotten colder outside, the students have continued to keep their heart rates elevated, blood pumping, and stay warm during PE.

Since the last newsletter, the students have worked hard on a unit integrating classroom content, an educational gymnastics unit, and are currently finishing a brief unit on educational games which have allowed the students to keep their blood pumping. The students have also been assessed on three different items. The assessments include locomotor skills, a select few of their gymnastics skills that they spent time working on, and lastly they were asked to identify activities that would cause their heart to beat faster.



A B C D E F G
H I J K L M N
O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z

While integrating classroom content into the physical education lessons, the students worked on math concepts, alphabetical letters/matching, a variety of phonics words, and rhyming within word families. I firmly believe that the students learn these skills better if they are moving while applying what they have learned in the classroom. The most interesting fact of all... the students didn't complain about the classroom work being done in the gym, but the fact that they had to move too much! Overall, most of the students enjoyed the activities!

The educational gymnastics unit varied through the grade levels, but was kept at a very basic level. Most of the time was spent learning basic gymnastics positions so that those positions could be applied to other skills within the unit.

Students also learned a variety of animal movements, worked on balance beams, and practiced a variety of rolls. I was overly impressed with how hard the students worked to perfect their animal movements and rolls!





In the last couple of weeks as we approach break the students are participating in educational games. The students have participated in a game called Thieves, relays, Wii Dance, and will end the last week with a couple of holiday based games including Polar Express Stations and How the Grinch Stole Christmas. All of the activities have kept the students moving!



SHAPE America and the American Heart Association collaborate on the Jump Rope For Heart and Hoops For Heart programs.

As an upcoming event and community service project the students will be participating in a Jump Rope for Heart event on February 13, 2018 during their special time. There will be a kickoff assembly for this even on January 29, 2018. Please look for information on the event to be coming home at the end of January regarding this event.

PE Reminders:

- All students must have tennis shoes on to participate in class! Rubber soled tennis shoes are needed. No crocs, sandals, or boots will be allowed!
- Shoes must stay on your child's foot during class. If the shoe comes off during activity this is a safety issue for your child as well as the others in the class and after one warning will be asked to sit out.
- Please make sure if your child wears a skirt or dress on a PE day that they have shorts underneath, or there is a chance they will not be able to participate.

THE PBIS POST



Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe



December and January



Kingston Elementary focuses on RESPONSIBILITY during these two months. Your child should begin to assume more responsibility at school and at home. This is a gradual process that requires communication and positive reinforcement (and consequences) as children move towards independence. Remember you are building lifelong routines and helping your child become a successful member of society. Celebrate the small successes and continue to work on those struggles.

What Should Responsible Children Do?

- ❖ Always do their best
- ❖ Do homework even if parents aren't right there
- ❖ Keep on trying!
- ❖ Think before acting & be accountable for choices (no excuses)

What Can Parents Do at Home?

- Give your child an important job to show they are counted on to be responsible (working hard to clean up his/her room)
- Encourage him/her to step up and help (pack a snack for school, put important papers in a special place, put library book in backpack, etc.)
- Help your child not blame others for their behavior
- Read books that have responsibility as a theme

Suggested titles: *Marvin Redpost: Alone in His Teacher's House* by Louis Sachar, *The Signmaker's Assistant* by Ted Arnold, *Summer Wheels* by Eve Bunting, and *Wagon Wheels* by Barbara Brenner



Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe





THE PBIS POST



Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe

Congratulations to our students who exhibited the RESPECTFUL trait in November! Also, congratulations go out to those who showed RESPONSIBILITY in December. These students were honored on our bulletin board outside the office in the main hall. Every month two students from each class will be honored on our character counts bulletin board. Encourage your child to keep up the hard word!

RESPECTFUL TRAIT KES WINNERS

Geoffrey B.	Linkon N.	Will K.	Karol C.	Landon M.
Lilly R.	Adriana G.	Peyton D.	Keeley S.	Keeley E.
Heath W.	Owen P.	Mitch B.	Preston K.	Cameron B.
Addy B.	Bailey P.	Abby C.	Brynn B.	Ayra H.
Lucas B.	Ryder G.	Jackson R.	Jose J.S.	
Brailey N.	Ashley R.	Jada H.	Ana A.	

RESPONSIBILTY TRAIT KES WINNERS

Jaxon P.	Rachel H.	Jasmine S.	Kennedy S.	Lathan E.
Adagio S.C.	Logan L.	Brody B.	Brayden R.	Jordan H.
Michael L.	Miad D.	Gabe K.	Addison L.	Connor H.
Max M.	Mason S.	Katelyn M.	Noah T.	Kaylee L.
Beau N.	Faith G.	Hailey W.	Jessie F.	Ryleigh G.
James N.	Jacob W.	Adrian L.		



Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe





Genoa-Kingston Elementary



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Offered Daily: Fresh fruit, Craisins and 100% fruit juice, assorted cereal w/grahams Milk: Chocolate, 1% White And Skim	2 HAPPY	3 NEW	4 YEAR	5 Full \$1.75 Reduced \$.30 Free to all who qualify Milk \$.45
8 Blueberry Muffin w/String Cheese Apple Slices	9 Chicken and Cheese Biscuit Orange Wedges	10 Cinnamon French Toast w/Syrup Apricot Cup	11 Mini Chocolate Donuts Banana	12 NO SCHOOL
15 NO SCHOOL	16 Egg and Cheese Croissant Orange Wedges	17 Glazed Cinnamon Roll Apricot Cup	18 Mini Maple Pancakes Banana	19 Breakfast Pizza Boats Blueberries
22 Blueberry Muffin w/String Cheese Apple Slices	23 Chicken and Cheese Biscuit Orange Wedges	24 Cinnamon French Toast w/Syrup Apricot Cup	25 Mini Chocolate Donuts Banana	26 Egg and Cheese Breakfast Bosco Stick Blueberries
29 Cherry Frudel Apple Slices	30 Egg and Cheese Croissant Orange Wedges	31 Glazed Cinnamon Roll Apricot Cup	2018	
				<u>Menu Questions:</u> Contact Regan Peterson 815-784-6222

January 2018 Breakfast Menu



Genoa-Kingston Elementary



MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
1	Full \$2.80 Reduced \$.40 Free to all who qualify Milk \$.45 MILK: Chocolate, 1% White And Skim	2	HAPPY	3	NEW	4	YEAR	5	Menu Questions: Contact Regan Peterson 815-784-6222
8	A: Pancakes w/Syrup Scrambled Eggs B: Chicken Patty Sandwich Green Beans Cherry Applesauce	9	A: Mexican Mac w/Chicken Slicks B: Cheeseburger Seasoned Black Beans Diced Pears	10	A: Cheese Bosco Slick w/Marinara B: Cheeseburger Steamed Corn Apricot Cup	11	A: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce B: Fish Sticks w/Tartar Sauce Mixed Veggies Diced Peaches	12	NO SCHOOL
15	NO SCHOOL	16	A: Turkey Nachos B: Cheeseburger Steamed Broccoli Diced Pears	17	A: Deep Dish Cheese Pizza B: Mini Corndogs Steamed Corn Apricot Cup	18	A: Mac and Cheese w/Ham B: Chicken Strip w/Roll Mixed Veggies Diced Peaches	19	A: Cheese Pretzel Slick B: Meatball Sub French Fries Sidekick Slushy
22	A: Pancakes w/Syrup Scrambled Eggs B: Chicken Patty Sandwich Green Beans Cherry Applesauce	23	A: Mexican Mac w/Chicken Slicks B: Cheeseburger Seasoned Black Beans Diced Pears	24	A: Cheese Bosco Slick w/Marinara B: Cheeseburger Steamed Corn Apricot Cup	25	A: Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce B: Fish Sticks w/Tartar Sauce Mixed Veggies Diced Peaches	26	A: Stuffed Crust Pepperoni Pizza B: BBQ Riblet On a Bun Tater Tois Sidekick Slushy
29	A: Grilled Ham and Cheese w/Tomato Soup B: Hot Dog on a Bun Green Beans Cherry Applesauce	30	A: Turkey Nachos B: Cheeseburger Steamed Broccoli Diced Pears	31	A: Deep Dish Cheese Pizza B: Mini Corndogs Steamed Corn Apricot Cup	C:	Mon & Wed: Ham and Swiss on Pretzel Roll Tue & Thurs: Turkey and Cheese Flatbread Fri: Ham Salad Ciabatta D: PB or Sun Butter & Jelly		Mon: Oranges & Cucumber Tues: Apples & Celery Wed: Pears & Carrots Thurs: Banana & Spinach Fri: Grapes & Tomato

January 2018 Lunch Menu

Important Dates

January 8th ~ School Resumes

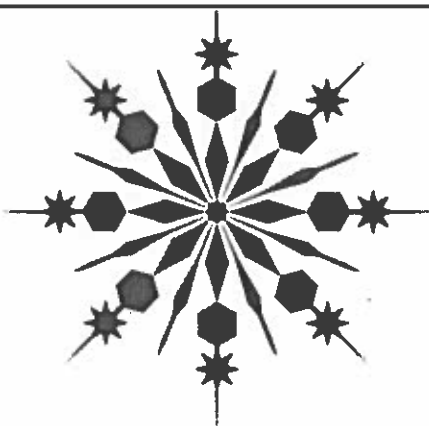
January 12th ~ Teacher Institute Day- No student attendance

January 15th ~ No School- Martin Luther King Day

January 16th ~ Report Cards Go Home

January 23rd ~ 1st Grade Concert

January 29th ~ Jump Rope For Heart Kick Off



Lunch Times

Kinder 11:30-12:15

1st 10:50-11:35

2nd 12:10-12:55

Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather!

Please send your child with a snack!

IF YOU ARE CALLING TO CHANGE HOW YOUR CHILD IS GOING HOME PLEASE CALL BY 2:15. THIS ENSURES THEY GET THE MESSAGE.

Please Save:

- Aluminum can tabs
- Box Tops



PLEASE remember to call the office if your child is going to be absent! 815-784-5246