

3 Kenwood Courier

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Our Newsletter for Families

Kenwood Elementary School
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FROM YOUR PRINCIPAL...

There is a certain amount of synergy that occurs between 7:15 and 7:30 a.m.

when I greet the children at the beginning of the day. Their collective "poise of presence" enables them to be open to the possibilities of education. **In other**



words, Kenwood students arrive at school READY to learn. As I visit their classrooms, your children remain actively engaged in the learning process at every level! Kenwood students ask thought-provoking questions during grade – level book club meetings, exchange interesting ideas with their peers, explore the complexity and beauty of nature through walking field trips, and share their artistic talents through grade level "Spotlights".

Kenwood Crawl 2015 — With the full cooperation of a September sun, walkers of all ages kicked off the annual Kenwood Crawl. This time-honored event hosted current students, staff, Kenwood alumni, parents, grandparents, and host of canine friends. The Kenwood Crawl raised a remarkable \$14,000 for school arts residencies. Thank you to our event chairs — Suzanne Paki & Anne Belzer, community sponsors — our donors, and volunteers for their steadfast commitment to promoting and sustaining the arts at Kenwood School.

Kenwood PRIDE — Respect and safety are etched in the DNA of the culture of this school and are reinforced on a daily basis. Kenwood Kids show their Kenwood PRIDE every day



by demonstrating these values: Peacefulness, Respect, Integrity, Dependability, and Engagement. Teachers provide lessons about each of these qualities, what they look like in the classroom, and what they look like in the common areas around Kenwood School. Beginning in October, our Student Council members will recognize students who demonstrate our Kenwood PRIDE values. A different classroom will be highlighted each week to ensure that every room is recognized during this school year. We encourage parents and other significant adults in our children's lives to talk about PRIDE values with their student and support our efforts to promote a safe and respectful environment for all students.

Parent/Teacher Conferences — "What did you learn today? What mistake did you make that taught you something? What did you try hard at today?" — Carol Dweck

Please reserve October 13th & 14th for Parent-Teacher conferences. Fall conferences provide a structured setting for parents and teachers to discuss their children's academic performance and achievement. These one-to-one meetings with teachers, and following up with both your children and their teachers afterward, lay the groundwork for a successful school experience. Come prepared to ask about your child's performance on the MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) test for Grades 1-5 and the BKA (Basic Kindergarten Assessment) tool. The testing season began on September 21. This is the



first round of MAP testing for grades 1-5. This year we opted out of the winter MAP test. The spring MAP test will occur for 1st & 2nd grade in May. MCAs (Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments) will occur for grades 3-5 in March. We continue to limit our testing sessions for Kenwood. According to the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA), results from September & October MAP tests provide vital information on what your child knows in the core subject areas of Reading and Math.

Thank you for your support of Kenwood School.

Minneapolis Public Schools now require that all parent volunteers going on School Fieldtrips submit a Criminal Background Check form by mail to the district along with a \$5 fee.

This background check is good for two years from the date it was approved.

Note: It takes 5-10 days for processing. Forms are available in the school office.

Kenwood Bike/Walk to School Day!



Wednesday, October 7th

Promote exercise, reduce traffic, show school spirit!

Upon arriving at school, sign our school poster and receive a sticker. (Bus Riders can do a short course around the playground to sign the poster & receive a sticker too!)

Cyclists: Wear helmets, use bike paths & lanes, bring a bike lock.

Walkers: Use safe routes, cross at intersections, wear comfy shoes.

Questions? Contact Chris Madden at christine.madden@mpls.k12.mn.us or 612- 668-2778

IMPORTANT DATES



• **Say Cheese! Picture Day is on Friday, October 23rd.** School pictures are a great way to save Kenwood memories for future enjoyment and to share with friends and family. Look for an order form in your child's backpack soon. **Retakes** will be on **Thursday, November 13th** in case your child is absent on the first go-round or you do not like the first photo.

• **Conference Meals:** The PTA provides meals for our hard-working teachers on the long, busy days of conferencing with parents and guardians. Teachers really appreciate it. We still need help with set-up and clean-up on **Tuesday, October 13 & Wednesday, October 14th.** If you can help, please sign up on our joiners e-mail that was recently sent out. Contact Lori Smith at volunteer4kenwood@gmail.com



★ KENWOOD FAMILY ACTIVITY NIGHT ★

November 12th, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

FREE Dinner ★ BARN DANCE ★ Scholastic Book Fair

SAVE THE DATE! ★ MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW!



Innisbrook Giftwrap Sale Begins Today!

One of the PTA's most successful fundraisers of the year is kicking off today at Kenwood school and will run through Monday, October 12th. We are pleased to be partnering again with Innisbrook, a company that not only offers beautiful papers, trims and gifts, but is also committed to producing products in a sustainable, environmentally sensitive way. **Kenwood will keep up to 50% of wrapping sales and most other items!**

In your child's backpack today, please look for a catalog, order form and instructions. The ordering process is very simple. Submit both copies of your Innisbrook order form with payment to the school and Innisbrook will enter your order for you. There are some fun incentives for those students who participate:

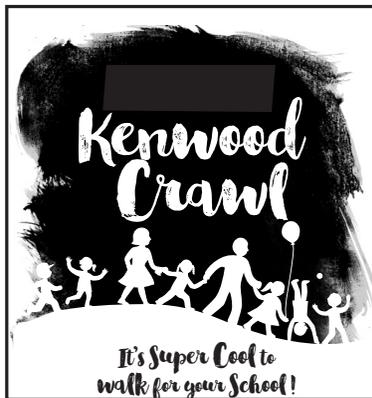
- The classroom with the highest sales will win a party of their Teacher's choice!
- If we meet our total sales goal of \$24,000, Principal Wharton-Beck will do something crazy!

Please invite your family, neighbors and friends to participate in this sale. They will all be pleased with the high quality of Innisbrook's products. Thank you in advance for supporting this year's fundraiser which helps provide enrichment opportunities for all Kenwood Kids!

★ The Kenwood Elementary School website calendar is updated with most of the important dates for the whole school year. kenwood.mpls.k12.mn.us ★

★ Handbook/calendars will come soon. ★

Kenwood Crawl Wrap-Up



From Crawl Co-chairs Anne Belzer & Suzanne Paki

Thank you to the 400 Kenwood students, family members and teachers that came out to the 2015 Kenwood Crawl! We had perfect weather, great music and delicious snacks — it was a wonderful way to start the new school year. **This year's Crawl raised over \$14,000.** The event's 19-year total for raising funds is now over \$174,000! These funds are used by the PTA to support the special arts programs that make Kenwood unique. Thank you to Kenwood students and families for your generous donations.

Congratulations to **Mr. Holmboe's Room 208 (4th Grade)** for winning the coveted Kenwood Walking Stick for the highest class participation at 80%. **Ms. Williams' Room 234 (3rd Grade)** raised the most funds as a class — an amazing \$2,900! Both classes celebrated their success with a recess-in-the-park party.

This year's top individual fundraisers were **Avabelle H. (Room 234)**, **Corinna F. (Room 234)**, and **Madeleine H. (Room 241)**. Corinna also led the field for the highest number of individual donations. These students all received gift cards generously donated by Birchbark Books.

Thank you to all of the parent volunteers. Special thanks go to Nicole Valentine (MC), Nancy Hope (graphic design), the Kenwood Parent Band (Ken Brahmstedt,

Tim Brunelle, Luca Gunther, Mike Pelican), Brad Ehalt and alumni-parent Matt Allen. Thank you to Principal Wharton-Beck, teachers, Chris Madden and other staff for supporting the event. We also recognize our special event sponsors for their generous donations: Isles Bun & Coffee, Lunds, Kowalski's, Caribou Coffee and Corner Balloon Shoppe. Thanks also to former Kenwood parent and beARTrageous owner Amanda Vallone for hosting the popular art station and Kenwood alumni 6th grade helpers.

CALENDAR

Monday, September 28

Innisbrook fundraiser begins

Wednesday, September 30

Spotlights

1:00 p.m. — Multipurpose Room

Wednesday, October 7

Bike/Walk to School Day

Monday, October 12

Innisbrook orders are due

Tuesday, October 13

Parent-Teacher Conferences

2:30 — 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 14

NO SCHOOL — Parent-Teacher Conferences

7:30 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 15 & Friday, October 16

NO SCHOOL — MEA: Statewide Teacher Professional Days

Thursday, October 22

Site Council Meeting

4:00 — 5:30 p.m. — Media Center

Friday, October 23

Picture Day

Wednesday, October 28

Spotlights

8:00 a.m. — Multipurpose Room

1:00 p.m. — Multipurpose Room

Note: Each is a separate show.

Thursday, October 29 & Friday, October 30

NO SCHOOL

Thursday, November 12

Family Activity Night

Give To The Max Day