

KWMS Panther Pride

October 18th, 2024

Message from the Principal

Kindness has been on the mind of many of us here at Kenyon Woods lately. Simple acts like showing kindness to one another, using kind words, and treating others as we would want to be treated are fundamental principles that we sometimes overlook. When we review feedback from our students, many express concerns about how they are treated by their peers.



With that in mind, I wanted to share a meaningful excerpt from a blog I recently read, which highlights the importance of kindness. I encourage you to discuss this with your child and explore ways they can practice kindness in their daily interactions with others.

Ask your child: How do you practice kindness? Is it difficult for you sometimes? Reflecting on these questions can help us all be more mindful of how we treat others. I truly believe our world could be a better place if we all focused more on kindness towards one another.

Thank you for your continued support in fostering a kind and caring school community.

(taken from <https://angiegreaves.com/why-is-kindness-important/>)

Kindness is caring about others and doing things to help make their lives better. It allows us to connect with other people and build meaningful relationships.

When someone does us a kindness, we feel connected and more willing to cooperate with them. When we do something nice for someone, we cultivate trust, and we feel good about ourselves for being a kind person.

But WHY should we be kind?

In the world at large, we have seen so much pain and heartbreak. So many lives needlessly ended. So much heartbreak and loss. It's a normal reaction to want to protect yourself from all of that horror and isolate into your own safe space. The problem is that when everyone does that, we lose truly important connections with our community and even ourselves.

- *By being kinder to others you tend to be kinder towards yourself.*
- *You get what you give.*
- *It makes the world a better place.*
- *Kindness is a sign of strength.*
- *Anger is toxic.*
- *It feels good.*
- *It's the right thing to do.*

Kindness isn't a feeling... it's an action.

Being kind is not about how you feel. It's about what you do.

Showing kindness to someone you don't like is really hard. But you just might surprise yourself when you take the high road. You have to remember that it's not about the other person, it's about us and who we choose to be in that moment. Practicing little things... like smiling and saying hello to a crotchety neighbor, or NOT talking smack about a difficult co-worker, or choosing not to clapback at someone when they've dissed you are all acts of kindness.

And, even if it feels strange to you, if you show kindness then you're more likely to feel better. You could even start to see the good in people or even learn why they act the way they do.

Kindness can also be the ABSENCE of action.

Being kind is just as much about what you don't choose to do.

Not gossiping or not joining in with workplace bullies are pretty obvious ways to be kind. Perhaps you don't need to make that witty sarcastic comment that would hurt someone's feelings.

If something seems like an unkind thing to do, stop and ask yourself if it's necessary or kind. Can you find a different way forwards, instead? Or can you even just do nothing at all?

Kindness is a two-way street. It's a back and forth that strengthens our bond with friends, family, lovers, co-workers, and acquaintances. The more we practice kindness, the easier it is.

As always, please contact me if I can help in any way.

Lisa Olsem ~ Principal

WE ARE KENYON WOODS AND WE DREAM BIG

To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also DREAM; not only plan, but also BELIEVE!

~ Anatole France

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OCTOBER STUDENTS' OF THE MONTH!

Congrats to all the Students of the Month!!! Each month one student is chosen from each of the different departments as their Student of the Month. These students exemplify what it means to Live the Kenyon Way. Teachers are looking for students who are kind, take initiative, go above and beyond in their classes, students who help others in need and students who have positive attitudes.

They Respect Others and Act Responsibly each and every day.

Congratulations to these students for being chosen as the Student of the Month for October!!

Camryn Boyd

Halil Mema

Jaime Alfaro

Sophia Galfi

Jonathan Soto Barrios

Audrie Diaz

Mia Stephan

David Valdivia

Sofia Rotella

Mackenzie Tazbier

Fall Fest

Student council is hosting the Fall fest on october 25 from 6 to 8 PM. we need adult volunteers to help run games and supervise a haunted house. The fall fest is our biggest fundraiser. all money raised goes toward Student activities at Kenyon such as offsetting the cost of school dances, including the 8th grade dance. Any help is appreciated, please scan the qr code to see how you can support the Fall fest.



HALLOWEEN TIDBITS

NO SHARING OF BUSSES – Due to the number of students we have on each bus, students are only allowed to ride on their designated bus. Please do not send your student in with a note asking to ride home with another student.



COSTUMES – Costumes are allowed at school on Halloween. There are a few requirements though.

- No Masks or hoods that hide your face
- No WEAPONS OF ANY KIND
- No face paint
- Outfits must be school appropriate and meet the dress guidelines for the school.

MAKING BEAUTIFUL MUSIC!

Congratulations to Christina Aina (band) and Elijah Guercio (orchestra) who auditioned and were accepted into the Illinois Music Education Association District 9 Honors Festival! They were accepted into this festival with the best musicians across the west suburban Chicago area. Way to represent Kenyon Woods by dreaming BIG!

AVID GOES TO JUDSON UNIVERSITY

Seventh Grade AVID students toured Judson University on October 3rd and October 10th. We had beautiful weather! Students enjoyed touring the campus, and learning about the programs offered by the University. They also enjoyed learning about the many sports programs and scholarships (academic as well as sports scholarships) offered by the school. The sports center and the cafeteria were among the favorite spots for many students.



JUDSON UNIVERSITY

7th Grade AVID 2024



BOOK FAIR IS COMING!

The Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Kenyon from 10/21 until 10/25. Your students will visit during their English classes. The Scholastic Book Fair will also be available during Fall Fest Night.



No more bills stuffed in backpacks! At the Scholastic Book Fair, kids shop without cash thanks to eWallet, a digital payment account for purchases at the Fair. Family and friends contribute funds. Then kids choose their own books. It's convenient, simple, and secure.

Here is the link to get your Ewallet started. Happy Reading!!!!

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/kenyonwoodsmiddleschool>



PANTHERS IT'S OCTOBER
WHICH IS SOCKTOBER! PLEASE
JOIN US IN COLLECTING NEW
SOCKS TO DONATE TO
STUDENTS AND FAMILIES IN
NEED! IN THE COMMONS NEAR
THE STAGE IS THE DONATION
BOX. ALL OF US WORKING
TOGETHER CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE!



Please consider donating! If you
have any questions email
laurenschramm@u-46.org or
wendyboris@u-46.org.

AVID INFORMATIONAL NIGHT

Is your family interested in learning more about AVID? It's a program offered in School District U-46 that prepares students in 7th through 12th grades for success in career and college. A virtual info session is being held at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23 via Zoom and can be joined [here](#). Parents and students will get a chance to ask questions and hear from a small panel of students who are currently in AVID and those who graduated from the program. A similar session is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 6, and can be joined [here](#). Spanish translation will be provided. These sessions are designed for families of students in 6th through 10th grade.

More info is available at u-46.org/avid.



DON'T MISS OUT - ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK NOW!

Do you want to preserve your child's middle school memories? Then you need to get your yearbook ordered now. Yearbook prices are at the lowest in the beginning of sales, so save when you order early.

Online order is set up for Kenyon Woods. Ordering will close March 31st.

Link: <https://www.vipis.com/group/f58a5727/kenyon-woods-middle-school->

INTERESTED IN WRESTLING?

South Elgin High School Wrestling wants you! Middle schoolers like you are getting ahead of the competition with ISI Wrestling Academy in Elgin - boys and girls of all levels are welcome! Check out the links below to get started.

[ISI Discount For U-46 Students](#)

[ISI 24/25 Season Coaches](#)



[2024/25 IKWF Season Registration ISI Wrestling](#)

FROM THE COACHES CLIPBOARD

Basketball Shooting and Ball Handling Clinic

LOOK TO GET MORE WORK DONE IN THE LAB!

There will be a basketball shooting and ball handling clinic offered for boys and girls starting Wednesday October 23rd in the morning before school. The clinic will run only on Wednesday and Friday morning from 7:00am-8:30am. (October-December) You must sign up with Mr. Cook or Ms.

Cook There's only 12 slots available.



PLEASE JOIN US FALL FEST

October 25th

6:00-8:15 pm

STUDENTS & FAMILIES ARE INVITED
TO COME FOR A NIGHT FILLED WITH
FUN, GAMES, FOOD, MUSIC, RAFFLE
BASKETS, AND PRIZES. ADMISSION IS
FREE BUT TICKETS ARE NEEDED FOR
GAMES & RAFFLES.

ACTIVITIES: HAYRIDES, HAUNTED HOUSE,
CAKEWALK, DUNK TANK, GAMES, PRIZES, & MORE.
JOIN THE FUN!



PRESALE TICKETS:
\$5 FOR 6 or \$20 FOR 35

KENYON WOODS

PTO MEETING



MONDAY, OCTOBER 21ST

6:30PM VIA ZOOM

HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US!

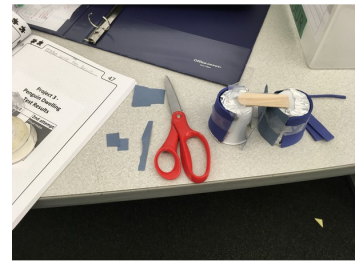
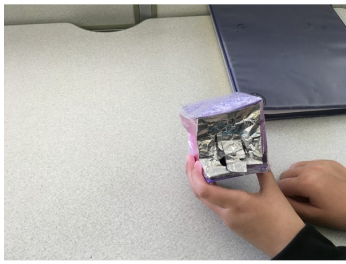
Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting

Zoom is the leader in modern enterprise video communications, with an easy, reliable cloud platform for video and audio conferencing, chat, and webinars across mobile, desktop, and room systems. Zoom Rooms is the original software-based conference room solution used around the world in board, conference, huddle, and training rooms, as well as executive offices and classrooms. Founded in 2011, Zoom helps businesses and organizations bring their teams together in a frictionless environment to get more done.

🔗 us02web.zoom.us

PICTURES OF THE WEEK

Penguin Houses in 2, 3, & 4th hours Design & Engineering.



FROM THE CREATIVE MINDS OF OUR PANTHERS

Art 2 students recently finished working on observational art. They studied the artist Georgia O'Keeffe, flowers and still life subjects, along with watercolor painting. They learned several new techniques with this media and were able to produce some beautiful images that will last us into the colder months. Here are two nice examples from **Esther Vazquez** and **Tayden Fuchs**:





EVERY MINUTE MATTERS CADA MINUTO IMPORTA

SHOWING UP TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY IS
CRITICAL FOR CHILDREN'S WELL-BEING,
ENGAGEMENT AND LEARNING.

ASISTIR A LA ESCUELA TODOS LOS DÍAS ES
FUNDAMENTAL PARA EL BIENESTAR, LA
PARTICIPACIÓN Y EL APRENDIZAJE DE LOS NIÑOS.

A whole year has 365 days.
A school year has only 176 days.
That leaves 189 days to spend on family time, visits,
holidays, shopping, and other appointments.

Todo un año tiene 365 días.
Un año escolar tiene sólo 176 días.
Eso deja 189 días para dedicar tiempo en familia,
visitas, vacaciones, compras y otras citas.

0 - 9 days absent / días ausente
100% - 95% Attendance / Asistencia

**VERY GOOD
MUY BIEN**



Best chances of success.
Gets your child off to a good start.

Las mejores posibilidades de éxito.
Hace que su hijo(a) tenga un buen comienzo.

10 to 17 days absent / días ausente
94% - 90% Attendance / Asistencia

**WORRYING
PREOCUPANTE**



Less chances for school success. Makes it harder
for your child to make progress.

Menos posibilidades de éxito escolar. Hace que a
su hijo(a) le resulte más difícil progresar.

18+ days absent / días ausente
89% Attendance or less / Asistencia o menos

**SERIOUS CONCERN
PREOCUPACION SERIA**



Your child will find it very difficult to make
progress. May result in court action and likely
route to dropping out.

A su hijo(a) se le hará muy difícil progresar.
Puede resultar en una acción judicial y una
ruta probable para abandonar los estudios.

Mark with an "X" or date each time you miss school excused or unexcused.

ON TRACK								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

WARNING								
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	

CHRONIC DANGER								
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	

Marque una "X" o fecha cada vez que falte a la escuela con o sin excusa.

[LINK TO THE LUNCH MENU](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

10/23 - Parent/Student Winter Sports Meeting - 5:00 pm
 10/23 - AVID Parent Night - 6 pm
 10/24 - ESPY Award Night for Fall Sports
 10/25 - FallFest
 10/28 - Boys Basketball vs Ellis - Away
 10/30 - Boys Basketball vs Kimball - Home
 11/4 - Boys Basketball vs Larson - Home
 11/5 - No School - Election Day
 11/6 - Boys Basketball vs Abbott - Away
 11/11 - Boys Basketball vs Eastview - Home
 11/13 - Boys Basketball vs Tefft - Away
 11/13 - AVID Parent night for incoming 7th graders - 6 pm
 11/14 - 6th Grade Curriculum Night - 6 pm

11/18 - Boys Basketball vs Canton - Home
11/20 - Boys Basketball vs Eastview - Away
11/27 - 12/1 - Fall Break

[Link to all 2024/25 KWMS Panther Newsletters](#)



Kenyon Woods Middle School

Website: <https://www.u-46.org/KenyonWoods>

Location: 1515 Raymond Street, South Elgin, IL, USA

Phone: 847-289-6685

Fax: 847-488-1430

Attendance line: 847-289-6685 Ext: 6654



Lisa Olsem

Lisa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

