

# KWMS Panther Paws

September 30, 2022

## Message from the Principal

At KWMS we are always striving to build a climate and culture where our students feel that they belong and feel valued. For us, a sense of belonging at school means that students have a feeling of acceptance, respect, inclusion and support in a learning environment. Students who feel a sense of belonging at school are typically more energized, more likely to spend time on-task and return to activities, and more likely to choose to be in the school environment. I would like to share with you a few of the ways we are helping to build a sense of belonging here at KWMS.



- **Building Student Voice** - Each quarter we ask our students how connected they feel to adults in the building and look for ways we can build more relationships with our students. We also have our student government group and will be starting our Principal's Advisory Committee soon to bring ideas to the table for improving the climate and culture of our building.
- **Opportunities to get involved** -
  - We offer numerous clubs, sports, and intramural activities to our students so that they can get involved and feel a part of our community. Keep an eye out for information shared through these weekly newsletters for opportunities open to all students to build their sense of belonging in our school.
  - Parents, consider being a part of PTO. Bring your ideas to the school, get involved with various school activities/functions/services, and help us to foster a community atmosphere of cooperation and support. Our next PTO meeting is **Monday Oct. 3rd at 6:30 pm**. PLEASE CONSIDER GETTING INVOLVED!
- **Events celebrating the uniqueness of all of us** - This fall we will be offering two opportunities for families and students to get involved and connected to our school.
  - **Family Fall Fest - Oct 28th 6-8pm**. This event is designed to bring the community together and celebrate our students and their families. There are numerous ways for families to volunteer and get involved. We hope to pack the house with fun that night!
  - **Celebration of US! - Week of Nov. 14th**. That week we will be dedicated to celebrating all the different cultures we have here at Kenyon Woods that make us unique and special. Celebrating diversity at our school fosters respect, understanding, and open-mindedness in our students and community. It also reinforces that we are stronger together, because

our differences make us versatile and prepared. Besides daily activities, on **Nov 15th our 7th graders will be hosting a Cultural Fest after school from 4 - 7 pm**. All families are welcome to attend. Then on **Nov. 18th, we will end our day with a Celebration of US assembly**. We are looking for any groups that would like to celebrate their culture through music or dance during that assembly. If you would like to participate, please contact Ms. Mattei at [MarilynMattei@u-46.org](mailto:MarilynMattei@u-46.org).

With all of these different opportunities to get involved, we hope to build a community where our students, parents and teachers feel more connected, accepted and supported.

Finally, good luck to our **Panther Soccer teams** this weekend as they compete in the district tournament this weekend. Parents, if you take any great photos at the soccer tournament please "share" them with us for the yearbook. Pictures can be emailed to [KathyGentry@u-46.org](mailto:KathyGentry@u-46.org). Good Luck Panthers!

Thank You

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 BOYS AND GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY TEAMS!**

7th grade **Girls Cross Country team** won the District's Championship Competition last Saturday, September 24th at Bartlett High School and 8th grade girls got second place. We are very proud of them. Go panthers!

Congratulations to the **Boys Cross Country teams** for bringing home the district championship on Saturday! Back to back district

champions-way to go!!

Special shout-out to the top 5 runners for 7th Grade Boys: AJ McDonald, Jake Slowinski, Owen Olson Baird, Kaysen Parker & Caedmeon Engelkeimer and 8th grade boys Justin Schueman, Nathan Canham, Adrian Bendetto, Safwat Riad & Jayden Goncalves

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## **HELP SUPPORT OUR CELL PHONE POLICY**

Parents - we need your help. We are having several issues with students using their cell phones in the hallways and in the classrooms. **PHONES SHOULD BE AWAY FOR THE DAY!** Unfortunately, our

students are struggling with appropriate cell phone usage and we are having issues with online bullying and other issues revolving around social media. Cell phones are a distraction during the day at school. This is why we are asking that students keep their phones in their locker during the day. If you need to communicate with your child during the day, please call the main office. Please do not text or call them while they are in class. Help us to create a safe and productive learning environment for all!



### **SAVE THE DATE - FALL FESTIVAL IS COMING!**

Fest Fall is approaching fast and there are a lot of great things planned. This event is designed to bring the community together and celebrate our students and their families. In order to make Fall Fest a huge success, we need everyone's support. A SIGN UP GENUIS will be shared next week for donations and volunteers. Your participation is greatly appreciated to make this event successful. Please let me know if you have any questions.

In addition, Parents.... We need your help in locating a similar truck (to the left...any color) to use for 3 days before the event to be parked at the school for decorations and a picture op. If you have one that the school can borrow or know if anyone, please email me to let me know.

Thank you,  
Tarra McIntosh  
[tarramcintosh@u-46.org](mailto:tarramcintosh@u-46.org)  
Student Council Advisor

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### **Calling all 8th graders interested in learning and applying for a high school Magnet Academy!**

The application window for our current 8th graders to apply to attend one of our five high school magnet academies opens on Wednesday, Oct. 5. To help students and their families better understand the focus of the academies, all five high schools are hosting open houses during the month of October, with the first one scheduled for Oct. 11. You are encouraged to attend open houses for any and all academies your child might have an interest in. The full schedule can be found [here](#).

Families with 8th grade students will also have the ability to learn more about our Magnet Academies at Explore 2022, the District's annual expo designed to expose 8th graders to various careers and demonstrate the connection between academic curriculum and future careers. The "Parent Showcase" is being held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at the NOW Arena, 5333 Prairie Stone Parkway, Hoffman Estates. More details are [here](#).

More information can also be found on our website at [u-46.org/magnetacademies](http://u-46.org/magnetacademies), or by writing



## MAGNET ACADEMIES OPEN HOUSE

October 2022  
[u-46.org/magnetacademies](http://u-46.org/magnetacademies)

**Bartlett High School**  
Science, Engineering, and High  
Technology Magnet Academy

**Elgin High School**  
International Baccalaureate  
Candidate Academy

**Larkin High School**  
Visual and Performing Arts  
Magnet Academy

**South Elgin High School**  
BEACON Magnet Academy of  
Media and Digital Arts

**Streamwood High School**  
Leadership, Entrepreneurship,  
Action and Design Magnet  
Academy

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### SPORTS PICTURES ARE NOW AVAILABLE

Team and individual photos from your picture day have been uploaded to an online gallery for the parents of your athletes to view and order.

Team and individual portraits from your picture day are now available to view and order online. To order photos from your picture day:

1. Go to: <https://www.vipis.com/group/f58a5727/kenyon-woods-middle-school->
2. Select "View now" on the green Sports Team & Individual tile
3. Enter your information in the search fields
4. Select the school year (July 1st to June 30th) during which your photos were taken and click "search"
5. Follow the instructions to select your package or products and enter your information
6. You will receive a confirmation email

If you can't find your team, it may have been photographed at a later date. You will receive another email when new images are posted, or you can check back in a few days.

If you have any questions, please contact us at [support@vipis.com](mailto:support@vipis.com) We're happy to help!

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### SCHOOL PICTURES AND YEARBOOKS ARE ON SALE NOW!

Don't forget to order your yearbook! Right now is the best price.

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

Information below is about choosing your yearbook picture and/or retakes if needed.

Families - School pictures taken in August are available to view and order. Please select which fall School Portrait will appear in your Yearbook/Composite at this time.\*



To view and select your photo, look for an email sent to you by "Visual Image Photography", or go to [vipis.com](http://vipis.com) to search for your gallery. (A student ID number may be required.) If you have any questions or cannot find your images, please contact VIP at [support@vipis.com](mailto:support@vipis.com).

\*If you have not yet taken a photo or need a new one, your Retake/Make up Day is on **10/5/2022, 10:30-1:30pm**. All students must have a current portrait in order to appear in this year's yearbook/composite.

**The final yearbook image selection deadline is two weeks after Retake/Make up Day; at that time VIP will choose an image for you.**

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## IMPORTANT DATES

- 10/1/22 - Soccer Tournament - KWMS
- 10/3/22 - Girls Volleyball vs Tefft - Home
- 10/3/22 - PTO MTG - 6:30 pm
- 10/5/22 - Picture Re-take Day
- 10/5/22 - Girls Volleyball vs Canton - Away
- 10/5/22 - EXPLORE Parent Night - 6 pm NOW Arena
- 10/6/22 - EXPLORE 2022 - Fieldtrip for all 8th Grader
- 10/10/22 - No School - Columbus Day
- 10/20/22 - Parent/Teacher Conferences - 4 -8 pm
- 10/21/22 - Parent/Teacher Conferences - 7 - 8 am
- 10/28/22 - Family FallFest - 6 - 8 pm

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## What's on the MENU this month?

### Changes to Next Weeks Menu!

Monday the 26th Pizza cruncher instead of pizza bites

Thursday the 29th is Orange Chicken and Fried Rice or cheese pizza bagel bites

## Link to all 2022/23 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