

KWMS Panther Paws

October 28 2022

Message from the Principal

Kindness has been on our minds a lot here at Kenyon Woods. Showing kindness to one another, using kind words, and treating others as you would want to be treated are such basic principals but ones we seem to lose sight of from time to time. With this in mind, I thought I would share an excerpt from a blog I recently read about the importance of showing others kindness. Please share with your student and talk to them about how they can also show kindness to others. (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.

How do you practice kindness? Is it difficult for you sometimes? I think our world could be a better place if we focused more on kindness towards one another.

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**

A HUGE SHOUT OUT 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!!

Yareliz Soto
Nathan Tiffany
Nirvi Patel
Aaron Downey
Nataly Araiza
Adrian Alaniz
Cristiano Lopez
Regina Merced
Adrian Bucko
Carter Batterman
Kavion Booker
Creedon Nguyen

HALLOWEEN TIDBITS

NO SHARING OF BUSESSES – 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.
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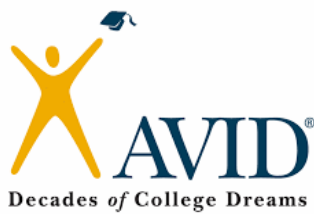
ARE YOU A KENYON WOODS GRADUATE?

Parents: If you were a student at Kenyon Woods Middle School & now have a student here, we would love to put together a Legacy Page in our yearbook. If you can find a picture of yourself in middle school, we would appreciate it if you could send that to Kathy Gentry with your name and your student's name. We will put your picture & your students picture side-by-side on the legacy page.

[Email: KathyGentry@u-46.org](mailto:KathyGentry@u-46.org)

IS AVID RIGHT FOR YOU!

Want to learn more about the AVID Elective class at Kenyon Woods Middle School for the 2023-24 school year? Join us Thursday, November 10th from 5pm - 5:45pm, as KWMS AVID Lead, Lisa



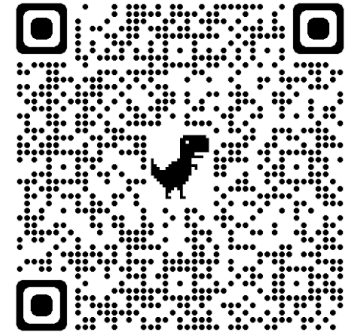
Christner, hosts a Zoom informational meeting to learn more about the AVID Program and addresses any questions you may have.

[ZOOM LINK](#)

Meeting ID: 858 6502 8134 Passcode: 860404

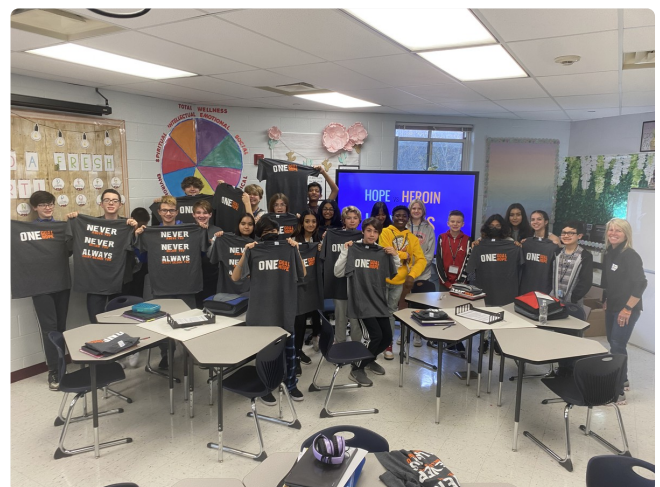
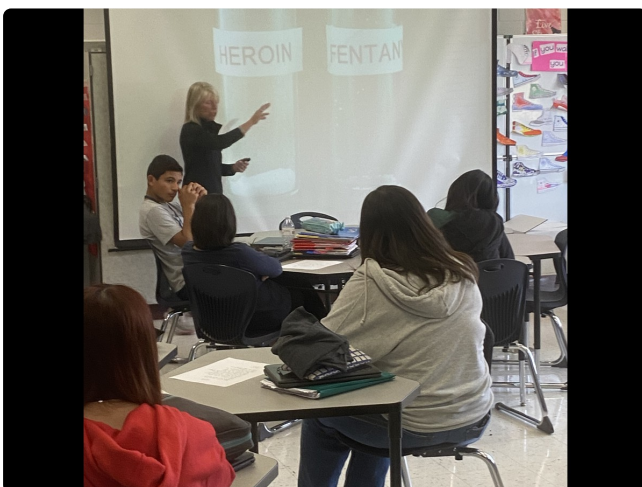
PANTHER STAFF KUDOS!

While we love recognizing the great things our students do, we often forget to thank those behind the scenes. Now is your chance to recognize our amazing staff that continually goes above and beyond for our students. Parents and students can now send positive messages to show their appreciation to any person on our staff by simply scanning the QR code below and filling out the form. Please help us in recognizing the amazing community we have here at Kenyon!

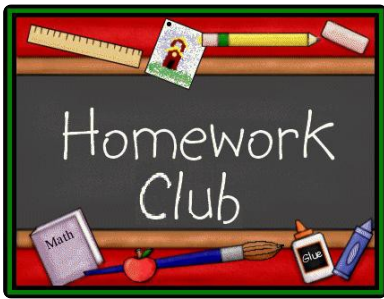


HOPE WINS!

Mrs. Dellis' health class had an amazing speaker, Patti from Hope Wins join us on Monday to discuss the addiction of drugs and alcohol. Patti and her husband started the nonprofit after losing their son to a heroin overdose. Patti explained how her son started using substances like alcohol and marijuana; that quickly turned into an insurmountable battle against heroin. They present to middle and high school students all over the Chicagoland area discussing the risks and potential consequences of using substances. Their website is <https://www.hopewins7.org>.



HOMEWORK CLUB IS BACK!



Starting **Wednesday, October 26th**, students may stay after school with Ms. Guzman, Ms. Ventrella, and Ms. McCann for homework help. This is an opportunity for students to receive assistance with prioritizing and task completion, and will allow for a quiet, smaller setting for students to work. Most days, we will be able to offer English/Language Arts assistance as well. Students do not need an appointment and should meet in room A106. Activity

busses are available for students who need transportation home at 5:00pm.

THE "EYES" HAVE IT!

Here are some Clay Creature Eyes that the Art 3 class made using their imaginations.

Mirri Garvin



Lorelei Witbrod



Maggie Altergott



Megan Mathieu



STEM EXPO KICK OFF

Each fall, the District organizes STEM Expo Kick-Off events to engage, excite, and inform K-12 students ahead of the U-46 STEM Expo, which is held in the spring. For the expo, students are encouraged to explore a question or concept that interests them, create a project, and share their learning with their community.

During the STEM Expo Kick-Off events, students and their families will learn about the U-46 science

This year, the events are being held virtually from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings in November. Each week will feature a different guest scientist speaking around their area of expertise. To sign up to receive the webinar link for one, two, or all three of the kick-off events, fill out this form: info.u-46.org/STEM-Kickoff22

The dates and guests are:

- **Wednesday, Nov. 2:** Peggy Hernandez, [U-46 Planetarium](#) teacher
- **Wednesday, Nov. 9:** Carrie Levitt-Bussian, paleontology collections manager with the [Natural History Museum of Utah](#)
- **Wednesday, Nov. 16:** Jordan Gray, communications and outreach coordinator for the [Turtle Survival Alliance](#)

If you have questions about the STEM Expo or the kick-off events, please write stemexpo@u-46.org.

PANTHERS SHOW THEIR SPIRIT!





CELBRATION OF US! WE NEED PERFORMERS!

Celebration of US! - Week of Nov. 14th. This week we will be 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.

IT IS A ZOO OUT THERE!



PTO NEEDS YOU!

Our next PTO meeting will be Monday, November 7th at 6:30 pm. New this meeting, we will be offering an in person and a ZOOM option for attending. For those that come to school, we will be meeting in the main office conference room. Signs will be posted. For those that would like to attend via Zoom, the meeting information is as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86366689721>

We hope to see you there!

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB COMING TO SOUTH ELGIN!



The Boys & Girls Club South Elgin Clubhouse is opening soon! Boys & Girls Club is a FREE after school program, serving students in kindergarten through 8th grade, open from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Transportation will be provided from select nearby schools upon dismissal to the Clubhouse.

Each day members will have the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs and activities, including STEM and academic enrichment, arts, sports and recreation, leadership, social emotional learning, and career exploration.

Pre-enroll today to secure a position for your child(ren) at the brand-new facility in South Elgin, located at 735 Martin Drive. Pre-enrollment can be completed online at www.bgcelgin.org/apply or in-person at the South Elgin Clubhouse between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Additionally, paper copies of the membership form will be available at your child's school office if preferred and can be submitted at the South Elgin Clubhouse. **The first 100 members to enroll will receive a free t-shirt!**

IMPORTANT DATES

- 11/1/22 - Boys Basketball vs Ellis - Away
- 11/2/22 - Boys Basketball vs Kimball - Home
- 11/7/22 - Boys Basketball vs Larsen - Home
- 11/8/22 - NO SCHOOL
- 11/9/22 - Boys Basketball vs Abbott - Away
- 11/14/22 - Boys Basketball vs Eastview - Home
- 11/15/22 - 7th Grade Cultural Festival - Parents are welcome from 5 pm - 7 pm
- 11/16/22 - Boys Basketball vs Tefft - Away
- 11/17/22 - Celebration of US! - Assembly - 2 pm
- 11/23 - 11/27 - Fall Break - No School

What's on the MENU this month?

Link to all 2022/23 KWMS Panther Newsletters



Kenyon Woods Middle School

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

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Lisa Olsem

Lisa is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

