

# KWMS Panther Paws

December 16, 2022

## Message from the Principal

One of our school improvement goals is to help our students and parents feel more connected to our school community. We want our students to be involved not only in the numerous extra curricular activities we offer but also by taking ownership for their learning in the classroom. They say a picture is worth a thousand words and that could not be more true when I look back at all the pictures that have been shared in our newsletter throughout the semester. I couldn't be more proud of all the opportunities we have offered our students, parents and teachers to be involved. The engaging activities and the active learning in our classrooms are inspiring. As we prepare to close the first semester and embark on the second semester, I encourage both parents and students to stay involved and actively engaged in our school and in our classrooms. Only together can we build the type of learning community that we all want for all our children. Dare to DREAM BIG panthers because together, we just might achieve those DREAMS!



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**

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## **CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DECEMBER 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 December!!**

**Angel Dominguez**

**Mae Cooper**

**Nayla Demirovic**

**Jamie Kiolbasa**

**Joshua Corona**

**Xavier Romero**

**Valeria Perez**

**Aaron (AJ) Stephens**

**Nicholas Nitti**

**Emiliana Gonzalez**

**Taryn Hopkins**

**Natalia Levy**

**Branden Neilsen**

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## **ATTENTION GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYERS!**

The girls basketball informational meeting will be held before school on Tuesday, December 20th at 8:30. If you cannot make the meeting, please pick up a packet from the stage during lunch or the main office. Tryouts will be January 11-13th. Contact Coach Balk (8th grade) [Kathrynbalk@u-46.org](mailto:Kathrynbalk@u-46.org) or Coach Pendzinski (7th grade) [Michellependzinski@u-46.org](mailto:Michellependzinski@u-46.org) with any questions. See you soon!

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## **WE NEED YOUR VOTE!**

Students and teachers have been hard at work getting Kenyon Woods into the spirit of the season. Now it is your turn to do some work! Please take a minute to vote for your favorite door decoration. [Each of the contestants are pictured in the voting ballot here.](#) Thank you to all the classrooms participating in the Door Decorating contest.

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# *SPIRIT WEEK*

2/16--Highlighter Day--Dress in Neon

12/19--Adam Sandler Day--Dress like Adam Sandler

12/20--Tacky Tourist Day--Dress like a tourist

12/21--Ugly Sweater Day

12/22--Old Self/Young Self--Dress like your younger self or how you envision yourself looking in the future.

## **BUILDING A CULTURE OF STUDENT LED DISCUSSIONS!**

Students in Mrs. Elliott's Social Studies classes participated in Socratic Seminars (academic conversations using the evidence from our readings) this week! This high level of discussion was amazing to watch!



## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE KWMS ORCHESTRAS!

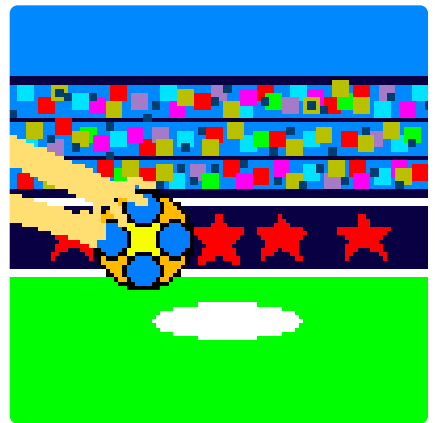
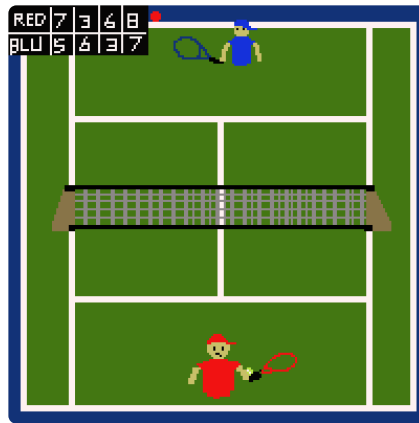
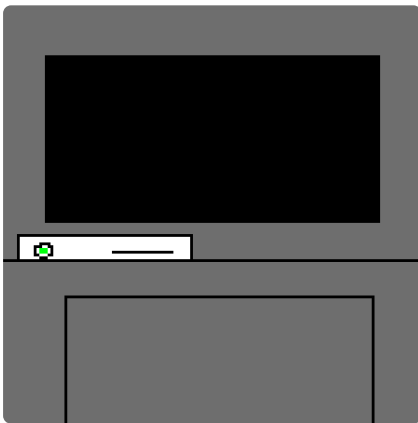
Congratulations to the 6th, 7th, and 8th grade orchestras on a wonderful concert Tuesday night! All of your hard work and practicing resulted in a fantastic performance! Mr. Botwinski and Ms. Balk are so proud of all of you!



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## ANIMATION AT ITS BEST!

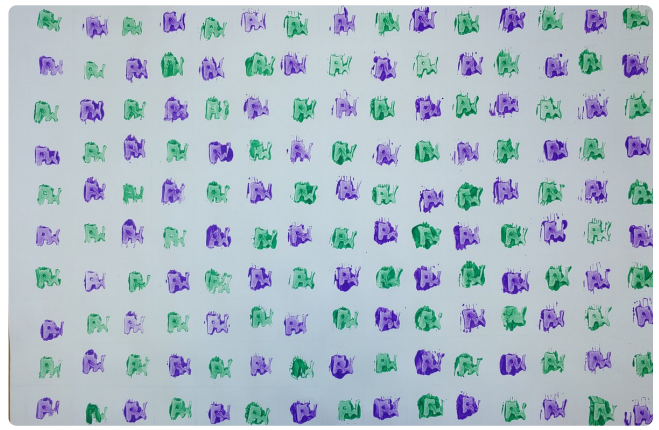
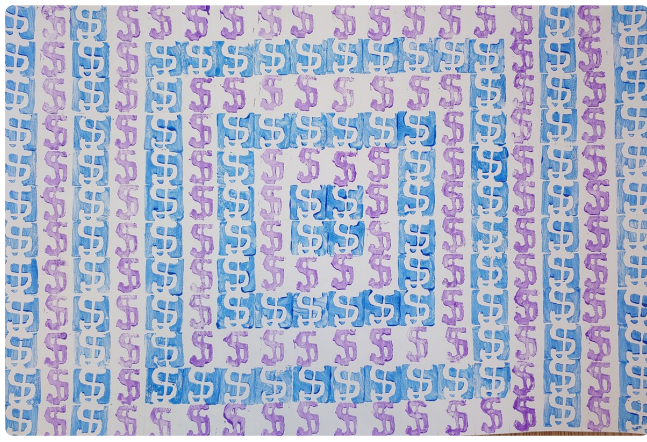
Students in Introduction to Computers show off their animation skills!



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## FROM THE CREATIVE MINDS OF OUR PANTHERS!

Art 1 students creatively designed their initials and then made their own stamps out of them. They learned about repetition and pattern and then created artwork based on this. Here are two examples by Faith Wood and Jake Slowinski.



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## FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

Cold and Flu season are in full effect - we have seen increased cases of respiratory illnesses including Flu, RSV, and Covid at school. As a reminder, **please do not send your student to school if they are sick and have symptoms including:**

- Fever (100.4°F or higher)
- new onset of moderate to severe persistent headache
- shortness of breath
- new cough
- sore throat
- vomiting
- diarrhea
- new loss of sense of taste or smell

If your student is out sick for any of the above symptoms the nurse may call to follow up prior to your student's return to school. If you have any questions or would like to discuss your student's absence with the nurse please call - Nurse Brandy (847) 289-6685 ext. 2242.

\*\*Also as a reminder - students are **NOT** allowed to bring medicine to school. This includes cough drops, Vick's VapoRub, nasal sprays, Tylenol, ibuprofen, etc..

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## ATTENDANCE MATTER!

We love seeing our students every day at school, especially as we near the holiday season and the end of 2022. Please remember that it is extremely important that our students are in school and on time to class every day, right up until the end of the school day and before any upcoming school break days.

Every day in school counts and helps build the foundation for your child's academic success. It is an important opportunity for students to learn as well as collaborate with their peers on rigorous,


standards-aligned tasks that require critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and communication. When your child is absent, they miss out on this collaboration.

Extended absences and/or vacations during the school year are discouraged and considered unexcused absences. The only approved vacation periods for U-46 occur during Thanksgiving and winter recess, spring break, and summer vacation. Thank you, as always, for your support and cooperation.

## KWMS IS NOW PART OF AMAZON SMILES!

**KENYON WOODS PTO**

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**Kenyon Woods Middle School PTO**   
South Elgin, IL Parent Teacher Group

**THANK YOU**



## IMPORTANT DATES

12/22/22 - Last Day of School before winter break

1/9/2023 - First day of the the new semester - Students return from Winter Break

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>

**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