

KWMS Panther Paws

November 17th, 2023

Message from the Principal

This week our 7th graders got to showcase the diverse cultures of Kenyon Woods; who we are, where we come from and the invaluable contributions we all bring to our KWMS community through our diversity! We are all beautiful, important, necessary, capable and real. We have so much to give and receive. We must never forget that we have the power to make our world and the lives of others better.



I want to take a moment to thank the teachers who spent countless hours working with our student to prepare them for our Culture Fest. A HUGE THANK YOU to Mrs. Elliott, Mrs. Limoges, Mrs. Gentry, Ms. Andrews, Mrs. Schnell, Mrs. Von Oppen and Mr. Nolan for putting together an amazing Culture Fest this last Thursday. We all loved to see the students' presentation, the parent participation and the pride our students took in sharing their culture! What a great event for all.

With Thanksgiving Day next week I want to remind all of us to open our hearts and give thanks for all the wonderful things we have in our lives. This time of year really connects us to the people we care about and the things that are important in life. There are precious few days when we can spend time with those we love, celebrating our families, both the ones we are born into and the ones we have built. Thanksgiving offers the perfect moment to surround ourselves with love and to enjoy the warmth of those who mean the most to us. I would like to take a moment to thank all of you for your continued support of Kenyon Woods, our staff and all of our students. I am thankful to be a part of this wonderful community, to work with an incredibly dedicated staff and to be able to help shape the future of all of our students. Thank you everyone!

Thank You

Lisa Olsem ~ Principals

**¡Somos Kenyon Woods y soñamos en grande!
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 NOVEMBER STUDENT'S 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
Students of the Month for November!!**

**Jaleah Liu
Mason Leiterman
Nabeeha Aziz
David Graff**

Isabella Mora
Addison Stredney
Nabiha Sheikh
Carter Battermann
Payton Bulicek
Lia Aranda
Hayden Langhans
Kyla Lopez
Damian Hernandez



BUTTERBRAID FUNDRAISER FROM PTO!

Your child will be coming home with a flyer for ordering Butter Braids this week. This is a pastry dough that rises and bakes into a delicious breakfast/dessert entrée. They are available in a variety of flavors. They are great to have on hand as the holidays are approaching!

The fundraiser will run from 11/15 until 12/1. Please make sure your orders are in by 12/1. Delivery date is 12/11. We will send the pastries home with your child unless noted otherwise or the boxes are too much to carry. They will then need to be picked up at the school on 12/11 from 3:30pm until 5:30 pm. All profits go to the school and are used for many activities for your child.

If you prefer to use online ordering. The link below can be used for online ordering.
Any questions, please contact Vicki at vbliven2@yahoo.com/630-247-9534.

[Kenyon Woods PTO | Online Fundraiser](#)



ATTENTION ALL 7TH GRADERS

Rising 8th Course Presentations: On **Monday, November 20th**, all current 7th graders will receive course selection presentations reviewing course choices, both electives and core classes, and will receive their course selection sheet. They will take their selection sheets home to be discussed with families, and keep them with them until they sit down with their counselors individually during the week of December 4th. The presentation, as well as course selection sheets, will also be available via the Counseling Cohort Canvas page on Monday.

ATTENTION 8TH GRADE STUDENTS!

Welcome Class of 2028!

OUR HIGH SCHOOLS

Join at the school you plan on attending:

- [Bartlett High School \(12/6\)](#) - 6:00pm
- [Elgin High School \(11/29\)](#) - 6:30pm
- [Larkin High School \(12/4\)](#) - 6:00pm
- [South Elgin High School \(12/7\)](#) - 6:00pm
- [Streamwood High School \(11/30\)](#) - 6:00pm

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Meet Administration, Staff & fellow students
- Learn about a typical high school schedule
- Receive an overview of the course selection process
- Learn about elective course options
- Preview activities & athletics

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

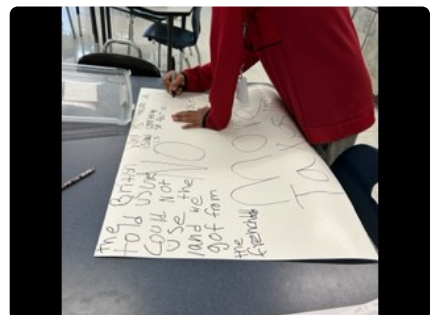
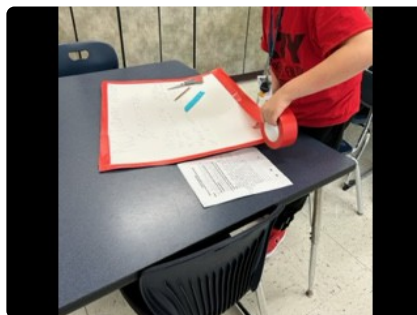
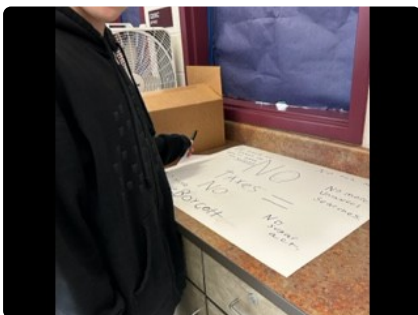
Join us for an informative evening to learn more about your future high school. Graduation requirements, expectations, course selection and more.

NEW TO U-46?

[Click here](#) to learn more (scroll to the bottom) or contact the school you will attend to start the enrollment process.

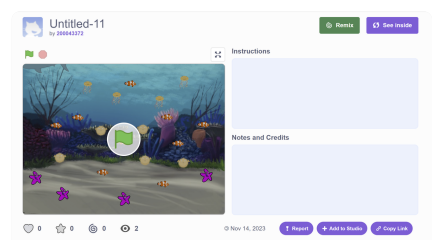
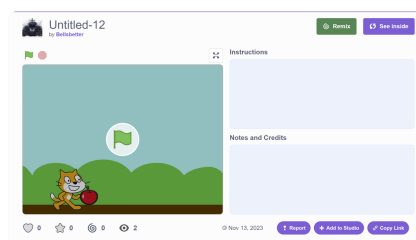
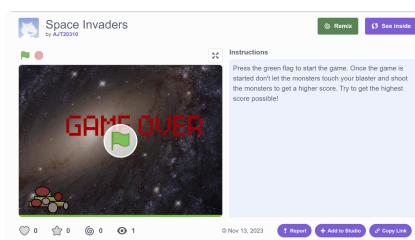
WE ARE ALL HISTORIANS!

Mrs. Diehl's US History classes are learning about the reasons that the American colonists went to war with the British. They are creating posters and presenting their ideas!





Students in Intro to Computers have been completing Scratch Coding Games! In these screenshot examples you will see a variety of backdrops, sprites (characters), and when the game is fully accessible, code added to make the game function.



20% OFF MINTED

WE'RE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT WE'RE PARTNERING WITH MINTED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON TO HELP US FUNDRAISE! PLEASE SUPPORT THE KENYON WOODS STUDENT COUNCIL BY ORDERING YOUR HOLIDAY CARDS & GIFTS FROM MINTED USING OUR PROMO CODE **FUNDRAISEKWMS**. YOU'LL GET 20% OFF YOUR ORDER AND 15% OF EVERY PURCHASE MADE USING OUR CODE WILL BE DONATED BACK TO US AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

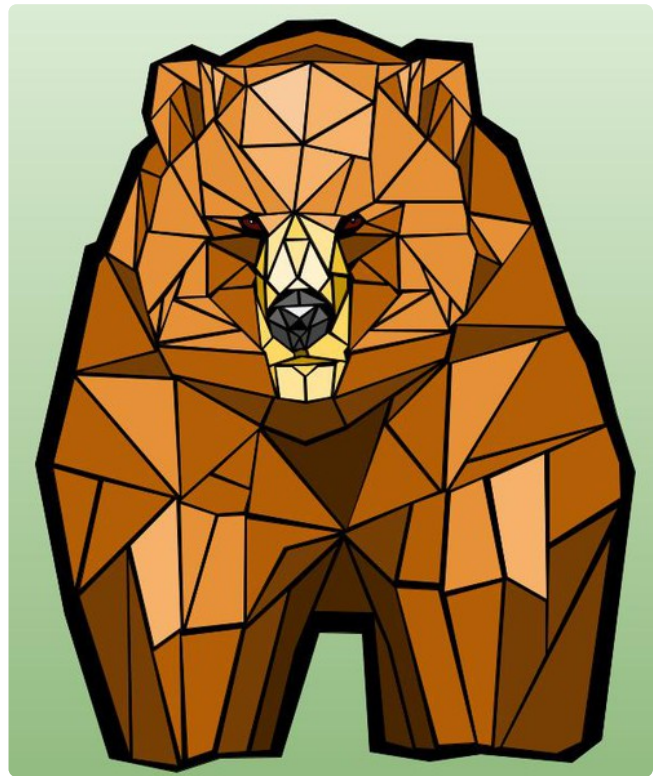
MINTED.COM

FROM THE CREATIVE MINDS OF OUR PANTHERS

Last week Art 1 students learned about Veterans Day and were then tasked with designing a physical tribute using their imaginations. The picture was started for them and they finished the image with their own ideas and colors. They used what they learned about creating the illusion of space and form and incorporated this into the scene of a monument to the veterans of our community. Here are two very good uses of space by **Drishti Patel** and **Finn Stahl**.



Art 3 students studied the historical artwork of *Mosaics* and how they are one of the oldest forms of art. They created digital art using Google Draw to make their own animal mosaics. Here are two great examples from **Izzy Rakow** and **Abby Baker**!



TEAM PICTURES ARE NOW AVAILABLE!

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 choose your background for your individual photos if applicable
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 We're happy to help!

Nurturing Young Minds: Teaching Children to Reason through Observation

By Mrs. Febles

Curiosity is an inherited value that drives individuals to make decisions whether they are good or bad. When something is intriguing, we are highly driven to solve uncertainties the same way a



protagonist would do in a mystery novel. As parents and educators, it is, therefore, essential for us to plant the seeds of curiosity and development of keen observation that would essentially teach our children to use acquired knowledge to reason.

I like to describe the skill of observation as a superpower that is naturally inherited and that we all possess. From the fluttering wings of a butterfly to the way airplanes take off and fly across the sky, our modern world is a playground for all sorts of inquisitive minds. Encouraging children to actively observe their surroundings not only sharpens their senses but also lays the foundation for furthering their critical thinking skills.

Turning moments of observation into a learning experience could simply start with thought-provoking questions such as, why is the sky blue, or why is the moon so bright during a full moon as a way to explore and analyze surrounding phenomena. A simple walk in the neighborhood can also become a learning experience as you both hunt for things to observe and explain while unlocking small wonders that perhaps you wouldn't have even noticed. Further this moment of wonder by encouraging your child to question and reason observed phenomena; thus, inspiring a habit of thinking beyond the obvious. Lastly, prompt your child to make connections between observed phenomena and daily life routines, which could also lead to a heightened sense of empathy.

In the ever-expanding mind of a child, observations and reasoning skills weave a pattern of lifelong learning. By nurturing a child's ability to observe and reason, we prepare them with tools to navigate the complexity of the world around them with curiosity and confidence.

KWMS SPIRITWEAR FOR SALE!



How many elementary schools does U-46 need?

We're at a pivotal moment in shaping the future of our U-46 elementary schools. Your voice is crucial as we discuss which elementary schools to retire, rebuild, and renovate to serve our community better.

Join our next Unite U-46 Update Community Engagement Session

When: Saturday, Dec. 2 at 8:30 a.m.

Where: South Elgin High School, 760 E. Main St. in South Elgin

Topics: Staffing, Operating Costs, School Building Capacity



Register [here](#) to help us with the planning of the session. We'll have a light breakfast, along with a rich conversation with other parents and community members.

This is more than a presentation; it's an opportunity to impact the educational landscape of our children. Your feedback will continue to guide us as we present our proposal to the U-46 Board of Education and evaluate the criteria for new attendance boundaries.

Together, let's create an environment where every child thrives.



Get to meet our U-46 Leadership!

The next U-46 Community Advisory Council (CAC) meeting will offer their annual roundtable discussion with our Board of Education members, the Superintendent, and her Cabinet. This gives our parents and community the opportunity to meet and engage with them, ask questions, and learn about new initiatives

and plans. You won't want to miss this!

This year's event will take place via Zoom to feature breakout room sessions with the administrators and Board members rotating. To assist with logistics, we ask our parents and community members to register and receive a unique link [here](#).

CLICK HERE FOR A COPY OF THIS MONTHS CAFETERIA MENU

IMPORTANT DATES

11/22 - 11/24 - No School - Thanksgiving Break
11/28/23 - Boy's Basketball vs Canton - Away
11/29/23 - Boy's Basketball vs Eastview - Home
12/4/23 - Boy's Basketball vs Tefft - Away
12/4/23 - Band concert at SEHS
12/5/23 - Future Panther Night - 6 pm
12/6/23 - Boy's Basketball vs Canton - Home
12/7/23 - Future STORM Curriculum Night at SEHS
12/13/23 - Orchestra Concert at SEHS
12/14/23 - School Dance 6-8 pm
12/22/23 - NO SCHOOL - Start of Winter Break

Link to all 2023/24 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

