



## From the Principal's Desk

Welcome to October, Kenwood families, or, as we like to say, happy fall, y'all! Can you believe we have made it to the end of the first nine weeks? This past month has seen our Kenwood students learning routines and procedures from traveling to the cafeteria, to how to check out library books, to how to move through stations during the reading block. I have had the pleasure of participating in a classroom meeting with Ms. King's 4<sup>th</sup> graders where we discussed how to be kind. I shared the story, *30,000 Stitches* in honor of Patriots' Day with Ms. Muckridge and Ms. Soltis's attentive 5<sup>th</sup> graders from the book donated to us by Superintendent Marcus Chambers. Ms. Boyd and I even hosted an impromptu amateur comedy hour with the upper grades during lunch where we attempted to answer the age-old question, why did the chicken cross the road?

Report cards are just around the corner. Kindergarten families, your student's kindergarten report card is new this year, and you can look forward to very detailed information about how your child is progressing. Speaking of student progress, students have completed their first i-Ready diagnostic in both reading and math. Teachers are using this data to set goals and make plans that address students' strengths and needs. Be on the lookout for the i-Ready parent report to be sent home if you haven't received it already.

In other progress news, construction has begun on the front office renovation. Safety is the priority of this renovation as it will provide a single point of entry for families and visitors to the right of the front office building directly in front of the parking lot. Construction is expected to be complete by Spring Break. We look forward to the new entrance complete with a courtyard, secure transaction window, and new lobby.

Wednesday is National Walk to School Day, a day for which Kenwood Elementary was built! We will honor this day by inviting you to join us as we take a celebratory walk to Kenwood from the tennis courts. Further details are available in this edition of The Communicator.

As always, continue to check us out on our webpage and Facebook for the latest Kenwood news. If you have questions or comments, or if you want to discuss why the chicken crossed the road, please reach out. And remember, it is great to be a Kenwood Bulldog!

Peggy Land Nehring, Principal

## WALK TO SCHOOL DAY – OCTOBER 6

Kenwood will participate in the national "Walk to School Day." We invite you to join us on this walk. We will meet at the Mooney Road Tennis Courts and Park at 8:00 AM to walk to the school. We will leave promptly at 8:10 and arrive at the school around 8:25. Our route will take us down County Club Avenue, then left on Eagle Street, then to the school. We will enter campus on the Powell Drive/Eagle Street walker sidewalk. Please wear comfortable shoes for walking and bring a water bottle.



***In the event of inclement weather, our make-up walk to school day will be Wednesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.***

## P.E. NEWS

Hello, parents! We are delighted to have your child in class this year and are looking forward to a year filled with many exciting activities! In order to achieve success, we have a couple of reminders for this school year.

1. **Be Prepared** – All students are required to wear ATHLETIC SHOES. Sandals, flip flops, crocs, cleats, ballet type shoes, heelys, and/or boots with any heel are NOT appropriate athletic attire. These types of shoes can be unsafe and for this reason your child will not be allowed to participate without proper footwear. Also remember to check the weather- we go outside A LOT so please help your child dress accordingly.

2. **Be Kind** - Treat others as you would like to be treated. We would like each child to develop a heart and mind that not only focuses on their individual success, but also views others as special and unique as themselves. Please join us in encouraging your children to constantly look for ways to help others.

3. **Do Your Best**- Participation is an expectation, not an option. Every student is expected to participate to the best of his/her ability. We understand however, that there are days when illness or injury may inhibit your child's ability to participate. If so, please send a note, call, or email us with a brief description regarding the nature of the restriction. If the condition restricts activity for more than 3 days, a doctor's note will be required

**\*\*\*Students are also encouraged to bring their OWN water bottles and label with their name on them.\*\*\***

## STUDENT COUNCIL

Student Council would like to welcome its new fourth grade members, these students were elected by their peers and they will serve a two-year term. These students exhibit the expectations of all of Kenwood: "be responsible, be respectful, be safe, and be a leader." Congratulations! Our first meeting will be after school on **Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.**

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Members:** Arden Newcomer, Hailey Johnson, Kelson Carducci, Mariah Birr, Harrison Watson, Cruz Torres, Katie Brewington, Madison Villarreal, Juliette Dobbs, Lilly Sailer, Caleb Gallegos, Nathan Hough, Abigail Humphries, and Mason Edwards.

**Newly Elected 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Members:** Aubrey Moorer, Jake Triana, Andrei Bunesco, Samuel Stejskal, Ayslynn Baker, Savannah Wilson, Alex Ingram, Celeste Betancourt, Tatum Wells, Nathan Dwyre, Lyric Hyde, Emilee Hartranft, Ava Shivers, Eli Shaffer, Mila Martin, Jessalynn Robinson, Dylan McCarthy, and Madison Dupree.

## FALL PICTURES

Fall Individual Picture Proofs were sent home with your student on Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to purchase a package, please select the desired package, complete the form on the back of the proof brochure, place cash or check in allotted area (payable to Bill Miller Photographers). **Orders are DUE by Wednesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.** Orders can also be placed online. Visit [www.BillMillerPhotographers.com](http://www.BillMillerPhotographers.com) and enter the event code which is on the front of the proof in the white box. **Class Groups and Make-up individual pictures will be taken on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.** If you would like your student to have his or her picture retaken, please send in a note requesting a retake by October 12<sup>th</sup>.

## TITLE I INFORMATION

**Lunch & Learn** is back! Each month, one or more Kenwood staff members will host this event for Kenwood parents and guardians. The topic changes each month. For the October Lunch & Learn, we'd like to introduce our principal, assistant principal, and guidance counselor. We'll share some information and updates about what's happening on campus. We'll also show you how to access your child's grades. We hope you can join us! Meet us on Zoom Wednesday, October 6, at 11:30 AM. Zoom meeting ID: 785 388 8651. You'll first be in a Zoom "waiting room" and will be connected at 11:30.

The **Title I Annual Meeting** will be in the form of a video that you can view from the Kenwood website or the Kenwood Facebook or Twitter page.

To provide more information about Kenwood Elementary, these links will be on the Kenwood Elementary School web site: Kenwood 2021-2022 Parent/Family Engagement Plan [www.okaloosaschools.com/Kenwood](http://www.okaloosaschools.com/Kenwood), and "Know Your Schools" Florida Edudata web site <https://edudata.fldoe.org/>. The Edudata site provides school, district, and state report cards.

Parents and guardians, if you haven't already, please apply for free/reduced meals for your child(ren) by going to the following site: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/>. The percentage of students who qualify for free/reduced meals at Kenwood is what determines our school's Title I eligibility. Title I provides federal funds to the school that support our instructional program. We sincerely appreciate your help with this!

### SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Please join us in person or on Zoom on October 7 at 3:30 p.m. for our SAC meeting. We need and value your input to continue to make Kenwood the best school that it can be. The Zoom meeting ID is 856 4685 4093 and the passcode is Lk7a0Q.

### RED RIBBON WEEK – OCTOBER 25-29

**Monday:** I'm proud to be drug free!

Wear Red, hear story of red ribbon week, and sign classroom pledges.

**Tuesday:** It's Cool to be Drug Free!

Students receive a card with tips to stay drug free and a lollipop.

**Wednesday:** Black out drugs!

Wear Black and get drug free stickers

**Thursday:** Team up against drugs!

Wear Team jerseys, shirts, etc.

**Friday:** Sock it to Drugs!

Wear crazy socks

### ADOPT-A-PATCH GARDENING PROGRAM



We are excited that Kenwood staff member, Mrs. Lisa Callamaras, is coordinating our Adopt-a-Patch program this year. Our campus has many beautiful garden areas that we maintain with the help of our families, classes,

and community. Interested parents, families, staff members, and classes may choose a garden patch to plant and beautify. Due to current guidelines in place for visitors on campus, we have established gardening days to be weekdays between the hours of 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM and a scheduled Saturday gardening day each semester. Please be on the lookout for more information, including a map of available garden patches, on the Kenwood Facebook page. Mrs. Callamaras can be reached by phone at 850-830-0157 or by email at [Lisa.Callamaras@okaloosaschools.com](mailto:Lisa.Callamaras@okaloosaschools.com)

### NEWS FROM 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE

We have more gardening news from Kenwood! Our 4th grade classes are going to update their gardens this year and will be working with volunteers from the Valparaiso Garden Club throughout the school year. Master gardeners from the club will teach students about the importance of plants, plant reproduction, seed dispersal, indigenous plants, planting schedules, and other plant related topics that align with grade level standards. Plants are a necessity to our plant pollinators (bees, butterflies, and birds) and to our ecosystems. We want the students to discover the importance of plants as well as gain the love for gardening and plants.

First, we need to remove several plants for the current gardens. Any plants that are removed can be relocated if you want them, with the exception of the invasive alfalfa ferns. We need muscle power and gardening tools. If you are not available to help, we would like to borrow or get donations of the following: gloves, shovels, trowels, nonpoisonous plants, seeds, pine straw, rakes, planters/pots. If you are available to help, please join us Saturday, October 16, from 8:00 AM until

10:00 AM. For additional information, please contact Mrs. Gentry or Mrs. Rich at 850-833-3570.

### MEDIA CENTER

Wow! We had a fantastic Fall Book Fair! Thank you, Kenwood families, for all of your support. Many thanks to the volunteers who were able to help; I couldn't have done it without you.



### VETERANS DAY

Please help us honor the men and women of our Armed Forces. This year, students are encouraged to wear red, white and blue on Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. Each grade level will parade around the track during their PE time. We will still be sending home bricks to our new students and we will proudly put up our "Wall of Heroes" for the students to see. The names found on the bricks are Kenwood family members from the past and present who have served in a branch of the U.S. military!

### LATE ARRIVALS & EARLY CHECK OUTS

Students arriving to class after 8:40 are tardy. Car riders who arrive late must be accompanied to the office by the parent/guardian for check-in. Parents of students who are walkers or bike riders will be notified if their child is tardy to school. Continued tardiness will require a parent conference. Students must be checked out through the main office. Only those individuals indicated on the contact card by the enrolling parent will be allowed to check out a student. Photo identification is required. This OCSD policy is in place for the safety of all students. To minimize disruptions, Kenwood's policy states that there will be no checkouts after 2:45 PM unless there is an emergency. The office closes at 3:30 PM. Please pick up your student(s) no later than 3:10 PM.



### GRADES ONLINE

You can view your student's attendance, assignments, and grades on-line. Just go to our website and click on the link "Grades Online." Your student's ID number is their 10-digit school number and the password is the last 4 digits of that number. [www.okaloosaschools.com/kenwood](http://www.okaloosaschools.com/kenwood).

### DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

#### OCTOBER

National Bullying Prevention Month

Dyslexia Awareness Month

6 – Walk to School Day @ 8:00

6 – Lunch and Learn Zoom Parent Program @ 11:30

6 – Fall picture orders due

8 – End of 1<sup>st</sup> Nine Weeks

11 – Teacher workday/NO SCHOOL

15 – Class Group Picture Day

20 – Report cards available in Parent Portal



#### NOVEMBER

National Child Safety Month

Parent Involvement Month

2 – Flu Shot Clinic (please return consents by 10/29)

5 – PACK Meeting

10 – Veterans Day activities at PE time

11- Veterans Day Holiday - NO SCHOOL

18 – Thanksgiving Lunch in the Cafeteria

22- 26 – Thanksgiving Holiday – NO SCHOOL



#### DECEMBER

17 – End of second nine weeks

20-31 Winter Break Holidays (Students return January 5).

#### JANUARY

3 – Teacher Workday / Student Holiday

4 – Teacher Professional Development Day / Student Holiday

17 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday