Weekly Newsletter
February 15, 2012

No School on Monday, February 20—Presidents Day

Hello Kenny Families,

I have written multiple articles in the newsletter about safety at morning arrival time. Despite my pleas over four years, the unthinkable happened on Friday. A child was struck by a car crossing Emerson mid-block. The child is alright, but we are lucky and it can never happen again. This is the article from the November newsletter and the map created by a parent is on page 2:

“Because of the traffic and safety hazards at the corner of 57th and Emerson, we moved the bus drop off to the kindergarten doors on 58th. 58th is also a snow emergency route so it will be plowed before the buses arrive at school. That door is reserved for buses and students who walk to school from the south. The door is open from 7:50-8:00. Parents should not drop off or park on the kindergarten end of the building.

All students who are dropped off at school should enter through the front door. Please let your child(ren) out on the south side of 57th or the west side of Emerson and the children will not have to cross any streets. We want your children safe and really think this will help.

We are still “battling” the city to get a four way stop sign installed at 57th and Emerson. Thank you for helping make arrival and dismissal safe for our students.”

On a happy note, we had two fantastic assemblies over the last week. On Friday, we had an assembly presented by the Minnesota Zoo to kick off our Science Expo. Monday, we had an actor from Historical Perspectives present a play on the life of Martin Luther King Jr. Both assemblies were very informative and the children did a great job.

Newsletter is going green. Paper newsletters will soon be going to families only by special request. Please watch for details in upcoming newsletters.

Bill Gibbs, Principal

Don’t Forget to Register for the Science Expo! Registration Deadline Extended to Friday, Feb. 17th
See page 4 for more information

Order your Variety Show DVD today!
Deadline to order is February 17th
See the order form on page 5 of this newsletter

Look for the special newsletter this week with information on March Magic
Musicals this Spring. . .

Please watch the calendar as Mrs. Hutter will have a series of grade level musical performances this spring. The first performance will be for Grades 1 & 2 and is scheduled for Thursday, March 29th at 1:45pm.

There will also be an afterschool Glee Choir performance and two band concerts.
PALA News

It’s our second week of PALA! Unfortunately some of you may not have gotten recording logs. No worries, just keep track of your minutes at home so you can bring them in for Ms. Johnson.

Need some help figuring out how to earn your PALA minutes? Why not get moving to your favorite Grammy winner!

Here are some free iPhone, iPod & Android Apps to get you moving and dancing:
- Pandora Radio (www.pandora.com): Family Dance Activity
- iHeart Radio
- RadioDisney
- Yahoo!Music

There are also free music & videos to help get you moving from the Hennepin County Library:
To find CDs, search:
- Exercise for children -- Juvenile sound recordings
- Exercise for children -- Songs and music
To find DVDs, search:
- Exercise for children -- Juvenile films
- Physical fitness for children -- Juvenile films

PTA Update

Next PTA Business Meeting:
Monday, March 5 at 6:30pm in the Media Center. Join us as we welcome Gael Ellis from MPS, to learn more about Area C actions and plans.

Recent Activities & Decisions:
What a great turn out for Family Fun Night. There were some 200 people enjoying time playing board games in the cafeteria or trying one of the great activity stations in the gym.

We are starting to work on our plans for next school year (what activities to keep, etc.). In an effort to respect our volunteers, we have decided to combine Bike Night and the Kenny Carnival into one new event (watch for details)!

Hope to see you all at our next PTA event: the Science Expo on Tuesday, March 13 from 5:30-7:00.

If the weather cooperates, the first Walking School Bus will take place Friday morning.

Plus, lots of fun additions for the upcoming Plant Sale to be revealed soon -- yes, spring is in the air!

Family Reading Night
Tuesday, February 28th
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Kenny kids love to read. Join us for an evening of family reading fun.

- Come hear celebrity readers (a WCCO-TV reporter, a screenwriter, and a special guest
- Read with your Kenny student
- Write a silly story
- Create a poem
- Grab a snack

Yearbook Team Needs Your Photos!

There are 2 ways to contribute your school activity photos for yearbook consideration:

1. Email photo@hajiani.com
2. Upload directly to our online yearbook program:
   Community Upload Site:
   https://community.lifetouch.com/
   Access Code for Kenny: YSASLT
Safe Routes—Walking School Bus

Last Friday was just too cold, but Kenny Walking School Bus is going to try again for this Friday, February 17th.

Please join other Kenny families in walking to school Fridays and earn minutes towards your PALA. We will start at 57th & Oliver at 7:35AM and plan to arrive at 57th & Emerson at 7:50AM.

If you are interested in hopping on our bus, please email Deb Schiltz at debnjay@usfamily.net. I will provide you with the times for various check points along 57th Street and notify participants if the Kenny Walking Bus will not be running.

Please note: parents remain responsible for getting their children to and from school safely; Kenny Walking Bus cannot guarantee the safety or security of these routes and is not taking responsibility for those travels by Kenny Walking Bus.

Did you forget to sign up for the Science Expo?

You’re in luck; entry forms will be accepted through Friday, February 17.

If you don’t have a topic, that’s okay, you’ll have a chance to tell us later. Just sign up now to get a display board and reserve your spot at the Expo. Entry forms went home two weeks ago and are bright orange. More entry forms are available in the school office.

Once you’ve signed up you can start your project. Multitask by reading about your science topic for the Million Minute Reading Challenge.

Sign up for the Science Expo!

MAKING KENNY GREAT: Volunteer Bulletin Board

We have the following volunteer opportunities available:

- We need volunteers at the Family Reading Night event on 2/28. Contact Teri Diamond directly at diamondltd@comcast.net
- FEELING LIKE A CLOWN? We need leaders for the Carnival. You’ll be mentored by the past chair and the time spent will be more fun than a night at the big top.
- Volunteers to help at the Science Fair, Tuesday, March 13.
- Do you like mixing business and pleasure? We need fun volunteers to work at the year’s most fun event: Volunteers to help at March Magic, Friday, March 9. Work a table selling raffle tickets, work the backroom handling sales and receipts and more.

To volunteer, contact Lynn Barnhart at lynn@grasslake.net or Laura Ronay at laura.ronay@gmail.com.

The Plant Sale is Coming!

Spring is in the air! The plant sale will begin February 22!

Watch for more information next week.

Dear Kenny Fans, Friends, and Family - To receive all the latest info, remember to “LIKE” Kenny Community School on Facebook!"
MAKING KENNY GREAT: Volunteers

Why would you want to volunteer at Kenny? Here’s what one of our favorite parent volunteers says.

“I volunteer at Kenny because it is one small way that I can be a part of my son’s school experience. I love getting to know the children and having a relationship with them and the parents and teachers. It takes a village to raise a child -right?! And maybe my encouragement to get another parent(s) to volunteer for school events will be the highlight for their child and he/she will remember about kindergarten! It's also a way for me to give back to an amazing school and community and help support the area. I feel good, knowing that I had a small part of something great for our community and our kids!” Jennifer Knutson

Don’t Forget to Keep Reading for the Million Minute Reading Challenge!

75,855 minutes the first week. Turn in your slips each week!

Questions? Email Mrs. Kersteter at dianne.kersteter@mpls.k12.mn.us

Area C/Zone 3 Parent Meeting
Thursday February 16, 2012
6:00-8:00pm
Whittier International IB
315 West 26th Street

The Area C (Zone 3) Parent Advisory Council is a parent group that aims to collect the voice of MPS Area C (Zone 3) parents, to build community among Area C (Zone 3) parents and to create a channel of communication between Area C (Zone 3) parents, the District Parent Advisory Council and district leadership.

VARIETY SHOW DVDs!

For $15 you can have the Kenny School Variety Show for years to come. Thanks to the talents of Paul Johnson, we will have another great show for you this year. Included will be some never before seen bloopers from the 112 movie. You won’t want to miss out on this one!

Questions – Laurie Hanzal 612-668-3340

Last day to order will be February 17th.

Child’s Name __________________ Room #______

Quantity __________ x $15 = $ __________