Hello Kenny Families,

It is hard to believe we are already at winter vacation! This continues to be an amazing year of learning at Kenny school.

This is a fun week at Kenny School. The third-fifth graders have been at Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center and come home today. The kindergarten classrooms are building gingerbread houses, some of the first and second grades are having Sip 'n Reads and classroom parties. Tomorrow, the third through fifth grade classrooms are having their Winter Options Day. We end the week with a Student of the Month celebration Friday morning.

Again, this year our break will be a full two weeks long. With such a long break from school, it is important to make sure children are reading at least 30 minutes every day. I know many families are working to reduce screen time for children, but if the children are working on tablets or computers, DreamBox math is a great resource. All of our children know how to access DreamBox through the MPS “Clever” website at: https://clever.com/

The staff and I would like to take this time to recognize the amazing things the Kenny families do for us. We appreciate all of the time you have volunteered this year. We are so lucky to have such amazing and supportive families!

Have a wonderful and safe winter break!

Bill Gibbs, Principal
There is **NO** school

**Monday, December 24 through Friday, January 4**

Classes resume on Monday, January 7, 2019

**HAVE A WONDERFUL WINTER BREAK!**

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**It’s time to get ready for the**

**VARIETY SHOW AUDITIONS**

**AUDITION TIMES HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED!**

**WHERE:** Music Room

**WHEN:** Thursday, December 20

**PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE!**

**Remember to bring your music and any props you might need for your performance!**

We can’t wait to see all the wonderful talent our Kenny kids have to share!

*Rachel Wixson (rachel.wixson@mpls.k12.mn.us) and Rebecca Totzke (rebecca.totzke@mpls.k12.mn.us)*

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Reminder...**Thursday, December 20** is the **LAST DAY** of the fall session of ALC, GEMS/GISE and Community Education classes.

Winter session resumes on Tuesday, January 15, 2019

After school class confirmation letters will be sent home this week!

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**LOST AND FOUND!**

All lost and found items are now on a table in the hallway outside the gym. Please remind your kiddo to take a look! Hoodies, mittens, hats and lunchboxes galore!

The table will be set up until **Friday, December 21**.

All items will be donated that afternoon.
**Hey, 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade Families!**

We could use a few more volunteers to lead an activity on Winter Options Day!

**When:** Thursday, December 20 from 1-2pm

**Where:** 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classrooms

Sign up [HERE](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054caca22a2f58) or visit:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054caca22a2f58](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409054caca22a2f58)

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**FREE BAGS OF FOOD AVAILABLE OVER WINTER BREAK!**

*while supplies last*

**What:** Bags of food similar to what you receive on weekends

**When:** December 27th, 2018 - January 6th, 2019

**Where:** Twin Cities YMCA branches

**How:** Simply go to the front desk and ask for a bag of food.

*You do NOT need to be a member of the YMCA*

*You do NOT need to provide any contact information*

To find a convenient YMCA location near you visit:

[https://www.thesheridanstory.org/break/](https://www.thesheridanstory.org/break/)

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**Keep Clipping Your Box Tops!**

The funds the Kenny Parent Foundation (KPF) receives from our box tops are spent on books for the *Reading is FUNdamental* book giveaway and other things to support Kenny kids.

Box Tops can be turned into the front office
KENNY SCHOOL ART DEPARTMENT WISH LIST:

1. EGG CARTONS (NOT foam or plastic, lids removed)
2. PAINT STIR STICKS
3. SMALL (Grits/Oats/Coffee) and SMALLER (Salt) CARDBOARD CYLINDERS, 16-18oz approx. (Such as: PANCAKE MIX, GRITS, OAT MEAL)
4. LARGE OATMEAL CARDBOARD CYLINDERS
5. ODDS and ENDS: GLITTER, WRAPPING PAPERS, etc.
6. PLASTIC CONTAINERS 5 OZ. and/or larger 32oz with lids, (Such as: SOUR CREAM, SALSA – and SHREDDED CHEESE)
7. YARNS (all types and amounts)
8. RIBBONS (any length and type)
9. ICE CREAM PLASTIC BUCKETS
10. WOOD PIECES FOR SCULPTURE BASES - About 6"x3"
11. FAKE FLOWERS, LEAVES

Thank you, friends of the arts,

Mrs. Cynthia McGovern
Kenny Art Teacher

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WINTER RECESS

Winter weather is here! Please make sure your student has winter gear (coat, snow pants, hat, mittens/gloves, scarf and boots) as most days we will be outside!

**Indoor recess is based on a temperature or windchill of ~5° below zero.**

We use the [Weatherbug weather app](#) with Academy of Holy Angels as the selected site to determine our current conditions.

**Crossing Guard will be cancelled if the temperature and/or windchill is below zero, also taking into consideration weather conditions**
Minneapolis Public Schools will be on Winter Break from Monday, December 24 through Friday, January 4, 2019. Classes resume on **Monday, January 7, 2019**.

Below are some resources for families during break. Please check back as this list will continue to be updated throughout December.

**Meals and Snacks**
The following sites will be serving free snacks and/or meals over the winter break. Days and times of service may vary, so those interested are encouraged to check in directly with the site for more specific information.

- Audubon Park
- Bottineau Park
- Central Gym Park
- East Lake Library
- Farview Park
- Luxton Park
- Northeast Library
- Powderhorn Park
- Webber Park Library
- Whittier Park

**FoodPantries.org** maintains a list of local food banks and meal sites (soup kitchens). Culturally specific organizations are included.

**Programs and Activities**
**Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board**
Recreation Centers are open during Winter Break (all recreation centers closed on Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) for free, supervised, drop-in activities. Find a full list of recreation center locations and hours [HERE](#).

**Hennepin County Library**
Libraries in Minneapolis are open over Winter Break and have fun events and activities for youth and families. Find library locations and hours [HERE](#) (all libraries closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1) or search for activities [HERE](#).

**Other needs**
**United Way 211** - United Way 211 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota. Assistance is available in all languages. Phones are answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. United Way 211 can connect families with resources and information including food, warm winter clothes, and toys/gifts. Call 211 or 651.291.0211.

**MPS Family Resource Center** provides school-based resources and social services for families and students at Minneapolis Public Schools. The Family Resource Center is available by appointments and by walk-ins. For more information and office hours call 612.668.4281.
Brix Real Estate and Kenny parent Jessica Brunsell are inviting all students to submit a drawing of the Twin Cities (or surrounding suburbs)

**HOW TO ENTER:**

**STEP 1**
Kiddo draws an amazing picture of the city. It can be a street, a house or a park. Whatever they like!

**STEP 2**
Adults can scan in picture and email it to hello@brixtwincities.com or drop it off in the front office

**STEP 3—WIN!**

BRIX Real Estate will select three (3) winners to be featured in the upcoming 2019 BRIX Report and win a $50 gift card to a place of their choice. ONE GRAND PRIZE WINNER WILL WIN $500 FOR THEIR CLASSROOM!

Entries must be received by: **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2018**

CLICK HERE to visit the link or visit:

https://www.brixtwincities.com/draw-your-city

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**2018 Haiku contest**

Haikus originated in Japan and are three line poems containing five, seven and five syllables respectively. It is a type of poem that can be written on many different themes from love to nature.

All MPS students and staff are invited to enter!

CLICK HERE to access the entry form or visit:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/17ohBCnuDg7GM1hR_uEtB2v9BLdCyNnAh/view

Entries MUST be received by: **TODAY...WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2018**
December Holiday Resources

Toys for Tots of Minneapolis area: There are donations of new, wrapped presents from the community. Businesses, individuals, and charities may provide free toys, winter clothing, gifts, bicycles, and more for children under the age of 13. The USMC is also a partner. Application sites include the following, and low income families can also apply online. Or get more referrals to holiday help.

- Community Emergency Assistance Programs - 7051 Brooklyn Blvd., Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, 55429, Hennepin County residents dial 763-450-3666
- Spiritual Rock Outreach Ministries - 6010 65th Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, 55429, dial 763-316-8051
- Rise Inc. - 3708 Nicollet Ave South, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55409, telephone 651-403-1885
- Christmas Committee Inc. - PO Box 755, Anoka, Minnesota, 55303, phone 763-323-4982
- Grace and Mercy Tabernacle Church of God in Christ - 14501 Nowthen Boulevard NW, Ramsey, Minnesota, 55303, phone 763-427-4392. They serve Anoka County
- Red Lake Nation Embassy - 2929 Bloomington Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55406, 612-874-9588
- Southern Anoka Community Assistance is at 627 38th Ave NE, Columbia Heights, Minnesota, 55421. For hours, call 612-532-1914
- The father's house of Carver County. Address is 2940 N Chestnut St, Chaska, Minnesota, 55318. Phone 651-243-8687
- The CHAP Store is at 2020 E. HWY 13, Burnsville, Minnesota, 55337. They are in Dakota County, and dial 952-890-8222 for information on Toys for Tots
- The Father's House - Burnsville high school, Burnsville, Minnesota, 55337
- Phone 651-216-2241
- Real Believers Faith Center of Hennepin County is at 2010 Fremont Ave, Minneapolis Minnesota, 55411. For information on free hristmas help, call 763-438-6335
- Tabernacle Faith church - 921 Downs Road, Champlin, Minnesota, 55316. Call 763-300-6547
- CROSS Toys for Tots is at 12915 Weinand Circle, Rogers, Minnesota, 55374. Dial 763-425-1050
- Good in the 'Hood - 2101 Chicago Ave S, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55404. Low income families in Hennepin County can dial 612-217-4003
- Grace Apostolic Church - The charity is at 3805 3rd Ave South, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55409. The Hennepin County agency can be reached at 612-961-9132
- Harvest For Youth Ministries - Phone 952-428-8063.
- West African Family and Community Services helps people of all faiths. Location is 7200 Brooklyn Blvd., Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, 55429. Telephone number is 612-276-1527
- Minneapolis Urban League provides free toys, coats, and more in Hennepin County. Address is 2100 Plymouth Ave North, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55411. Phone 612-302-3114
- New Millennium Academy. Address is 2620 Russell Ave N, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55411. For information on holiday applications, call 612-377-6260.
- The Purpose Church - 3001 Russel Ave N, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55411. Phone 612-968-5197

Union Gospel Mission
435 University Avenue
For holiday assistance, dial 651-292-1721.
Hot meals, referrals, and Thanksgiving or Christmas help for families in poverty.

Salvation Army
Our Twin Cities Toy Shop hotline (651-746-3595) will be open during weekday business hours for registration and to answer questions.
All who register before Dec. 1 will receive an assigned location for toy pick up, based on their address. Distributions will be held Dec. 18-23.
If you miss registration but still need assistance, call United Way 2-1-1 to see what help may be available in your area.
ATTENDANCE:

Call the Attendance line (612-668-3346) when your student will be absent.

Doctors or dentists notes should be brought into school when the student returns to the building. Your help with this is appreciated.

STUDENT DROP OFF:

Children will be admitted into the building at 7:50am. Please plan your drop off time accordingly!

Please be courteous of other drivers and USE CAUTION when pulling away from the curb!

The staff is respectfully requesting students be dropped off at the front door #1 in the morning.
- Teachers need to be able to greet and assist children.
- Children have morning work assignments that need to be completed before the morning meeting that starts at 8:10am.

Thank you for your help with this as it allows us to give your children our undivided attention for greetings and assistance with morning work and routines.

All adults entering the building must sign in at the office.

TRANSPORTATION:

Send Information to School when:
1. You have an address or daycare change.
2. If you are picking up your child and they usually ride a bus, they must be signed out in the office even with advanced notice.
3. Your student is using a different bus stop.
4. Your student is going home with another student. (Note: we need notification from BOTH families).

Information will be sent home when:
1. Your student has been added to a bus route.
2. The bus stop for your student has had a change in location.
3. The IN bus stop for your student has had a cumulative time change of five minutes or more.

Changes can become effective any day of the week so watch for the effective dates on the notices sent home with your student.

BUS PASSES: Bus passes are REQUIRED to board a bus that is normally not a student's assigned bus. We request notes be turned into the office as early in the day as possible.

We need notes from both sets of parents/guardians i.e. the parent/guardian of the student taking a different bus or using a different stop and the parent/guardian of the student they are traveling with.

The note should include:
- Student's FIRST and LAST NAME
- FULL name of student they are riding with
- Date of request
- Signature of parent or guardian

A bus pass may not be able to be honored if we have not received two permission forms or if the bus requested is full.
Stay Informed

Bookmark the Kenny Website for quick access to the Staff Directory, the school schedule, meeting times, and new information.

To be added to the Wednesday newsletter email list or if you have information you would like to submit to the Wednesday newsletter, please email: kennyschool.pto@gmail.com By 5pm on Friday

Join us on Facebook & keep up with all the latest Kenny news http://www.facebook.com/kennypita