



Killingly Memorial School

Winter 2022

Principal's Message

A New Year's Message from the Principal

Happy New Year and welcome back to all families. May this year bring you joy, peace, good health, and good fortune. January is about new beginnings and positive change. I love all the possibilities that exist for our children at Killingly Memorial School and their future. All of us at KMS thank you for your caring support and partnership in working together with your children.

The New Year is a wonderful time for families to discuss their own family values and how to make a difference in the lives of others. Teachers work with their students through Responsive Classroom and RULER discussions to set the tone for effective communication. We encourage our students and families to take the opportunity to celebrate personal achievements each and every day.

My own goals for 2022 include finding opportunities for every member of our KMS family to work together to make our school healthier and happier. A wonderful way to feel happier is through service to others. In 2021, our students participated in multiple community service projects. KMS students collected food for the local food pantry. They participated in a sock drive and donated over 500 pairs of socks to the local Access Homeless shelter in Danielson. They made beautiful holiday cards for hospital workers and veterans. Our students continue each day to embody KMS Pride. We are so thankful for our dedicated staff members and parents who contributed to the success of our endeavors.

From all of us at Killingly Memorial School, we wish you and yours the best always in this new year, and thank you for your continued trust and support in us. We look forward to a successful remainder of the year. Together we are making a difference in the experiences and opportunities for all of our students.

In Partnership,

Mrs. Chahanovich



January 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7 Early Release Day!
10 PTCA Meeting 6:30	11	12	13	14
17 NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18 NO SCHOOL Staff Development Day	19	20	21 Progress Reports in Friday Folders
24	25	26	27	28

Two Hour Delay—Students allowed into Building at 10:10
School Starts at 10:35. NO BREAKFAST SERVED

Regular Early dismissal—Students will be dismissed at 1:20
Lunch will be served as usual.

Special Early dismissal—Students will be dismissed at 12:05
Lunch will be served as usual.

February 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
31	1	2	3	4 Early Release Day!
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21 NO SCHOOL Winter Weekend	22 NO SCHOOL Winter Weekend	23	24	25

March 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
28	1	2	3	4 Early Release Day!
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18 NO SCHOOL Staff Development Day
21 Book Fair Open during Conferences	22 Parent Teacher Conferences	23	24 HALF DAY Parent Teacher Conferences	25
28	29	30	31	

Classroom News

Grade Two

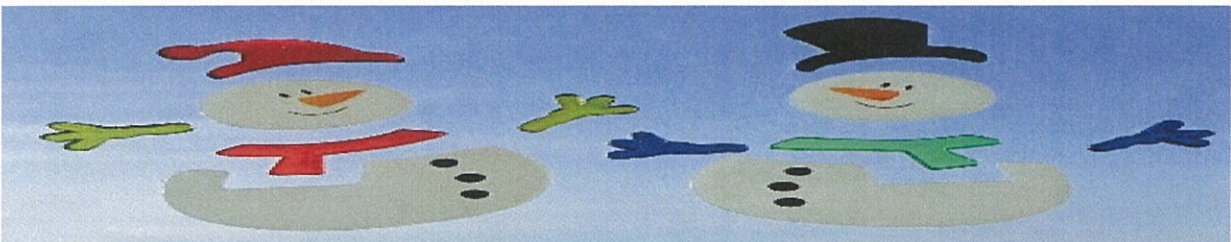
The children are very excited to start writing informational books! They will learn to choose topics they are experts on in order to write organized books that contain lots of important and interesting facts and details. They are able to produce books with more ease when they choose these “just right topics” for themselves. They will be learning to give information by writing teaching books that include facts, details, expert words, definitions, steps and tips. They will focus on the importance of organization as they write chapters focusing on one idea at a time. They’ll use their knowledge of how non-fiction books are organized to create their own text features to share facts with others. Books that teach all about a topic can be referred to as “All About Books.” You can help your child with this work at home. Consider checking out some “all about” books from the library. Discuss the way the book is designed to teach someone all about the given topic. Notice the different chapters/sections that teach different information about the main topic. Look for photographs with captions, diagrams, and glossaries that provide extra information about the topic. Then, choose a topic to create your own “all about” book. It could be for a favorite sport/hobby, a family pet, or a famous person.

In math, the students recently finished chapter 8 on customary measurement and practiced measuring in inches and feet with rulers, yardsticks and measuring tapes. Second graders are beginning Chapter 4 in math. The focus is on 2-Digit Addition. The children will use their understanding of place value to become more fluent with addition. They will find sums of two, three, and four 2- digit numbers. In the first few lessons, students will learn to decompose numbers, or break them apart, to help them use mental math to find sums for 2-digit addition problems. In order to break apart a number, children must understand the value of groups of tens and ones. Students learned to break apart numbers when using the “make a ten” strategy with basic addition facts. Here’s an example of the work they’ll be doing: $27 + 8 = \underline{\quad}$. Students break apart the digit 8 into 3 and 5 and then combine the 3 ones with the 7 (from the digit 27) to make a ten. The addition problem then becomes $30 + 5 = \underline{\quad}$. This is simpler to solve mentally than $27 + 8$.

Please continue working with your child at home on addition and subtraction to 20. Make it into a game. Use a deck of cards and play war. Instead of using the bigger number as the winner change it to the first person to add the cards together is the winner. Our next chapter is 2-digit subtraction and having the knowledge of adding and subtracting with related facts will help with the understanding of the concept.

Here’s a list of the vocabulary words for this chapter: column, digit, hundred, is equal to, ones, regroup, sum, and ten. During Reading Workshop, the second graders have been “rolling up their sleeves” and tackling tricky words in their leveled books. Each day, students will get the chance to practice a well-known strategy from first grade. They will read words part-by-part, crash the parts together, check for snap words, and try it many ways. They will also do a triple check to make sure the word they solved looks right, sounds right, and makes sense. After reviewing these strategies, students will use everything they know to read fluently and with power. Students will celebrate by picking a book to read and reread, making their reading sound powerful. They might record themselves or find time to share with classmates or family members at home.

This work goes hand-in-hand with our unit “Big Words Take Big Resolve” in Phonics. Through the study of animals and the challenges they face, students will be approaching the challenge of reading difficult words. Second graders will begin to study how to read and write multi-syllable words and how adding endings changes the meaning of words. The unit culminates with a call to action to help Gus, our phonics mascot, to “Save the Animals” and use everything they’ve learned to write grown-up letters to advocate for conservation funding.



Grade Three

In Math, third grade has been introduced to multiplication and division. Students were very excited to begin learning about these topics! We spent several weeks focusing on solving problems involving multiplication. Division was introduced at the beginning of January and we will continue to work with that skill throughout the month.

Third grade began studying non-fiction texts in Reading back in November. Throughout November and December, third graders learned about expository texts and how to find the main idea of informational writing. In January, we began to focus our attention on Biographies. We will spend the month learning how to analyze this specific type of nonfiction text.

Third graders have been enjoying learning about a variety of topics in Social Studies. We learned about holidays around the world in December, made New Year's resolutions, and are studying the life of Martin Luther King, Jr. as part of our Biography unit. We continue to read our Scholastic News issues to find out about current events and history.

We will also be learning about Connecticut's government and how laws are made. Students will learn about the three branches of government and how laws affect society. We will examine the way laws are created and work together to create a new "law" for our classroom.

Finally, students will learn about good citizenship and personal safety, including internet safety, as part of our new Health curriculum, "Safer, Smarter Kids".

As always, thank you for all you do at home to support your third grader's education!



February 2

Grade Four

Social Studies

As we finished up our first unit in Social Studies of States and Capitals, we began studying current events through the reading of Scholastic Magazine and watching student news networks. This unit of study allowed us to explore the US and world at large and started a variety of discussions about problem-solving, working together and history. Soon we will be moving into our 2nd Social Studies Unit that will cover the 5 United States regions.

Social-Emotional Learning

For social and emotional learning, 4th grade continues to use the Second Step program, as well as the school-wide initiative, RULER. During this term, students participated in the "Community and Climate/Self and Social Awareness" unit of study. We learned how to respect each other's similarities and differences, and discussed how to show compassion by saying kind words or being helpful to show you care. We created a "Class Charter" to outline the feelings everyone wants to feel in a classroom setting such as encouraged, respected, and valued.

Writing

In informational writing, students are continuing to work on projects where they are researching and then writing about a topic of their choice. These writing projects help develop their essay writing skills and their nonfiction researching skills. The post-assessment for this unit will be at the end of January.

Reading

In reading, fourth graders are completing their Informational Reading Unit lessons and have researched about a topic to align with their Informational Essay in Writing. Students learned how to organize and gather resources about a topic, as well as taking focused notes from various texts on their topic. The next unit in reading will be concentrated on diving deeper into our fiction texts and character development in the Detail and Synthesis Unit. As always, remember to read every night!

Math

Fourth graders have been working hard in math over the last few months! We learned how to multiply two-digit by two-digit numbers in chapter three. Then, we used the inverse operation of multiplication to tackle the challenging chapter four on division. Next, we used our basic multiplication skills to find multiples and factors in chapter five. We are looking forward to focusing on fractions in chapters six through ten. As always, please remember to have your child(ren) practice their math facts!

Unified Arts News



NOTES

FROM MRS. VARONE

KMS Music

January 2022

Happy New Year! Before the holiday break we had a great time with our KMS Virtual Holiday Sing Along. Many of our 4th grade students contributed to this awesome production. You can still view the sing along at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/2267nj53>
Below are some updates on what we are learning in music for each grade.

What Did We Learn?

2nd Grade:

In second grade we have mastered quarter notes and eighth notes. We worked on a silly chant called "One, Two, Three, Four, Five" and created our own fish compositions. These compositions helped us improve reading and performing with quarter notes (ta's) and eighth notes (ti-ti's). We also studied the famous ballet, *The Nutcracker*.

3rd Grade:

Third grade students have been working on the notes Do, Re, Mi. Students are becoming proficient at reading, singing, and playing these notes. We also had a chance to play and improvise on xylophones. In December, we focused on the ballet, *The Nutcracker*.

4th Grade:

This is such an exciting time for fourth graders. We have just about mastered the basics of recorder and the notes B, A, and G. I am so impressed with the 4th grade recorder performance of Carol of the Bells! The students worked incredibly hard to master this piece. If you haven't had a chance to see it, you can view a recording at: <https://tinyurl.com/5ysxncm>



P.E. UPDATE



2nd Grade

Students were able to demonstrate their cooperative skills in various activities during our cooperative games unit. We talked about the importance of being a kind and encouraging teammate. Students also enjoyed our scooter unit where students learned different ways to move and travel safely on a scooter!

3rd Grade

During our cooperative games unit, students were able to work together in both large and small groups to accomplish challenges. A focus in this unit for 3rd grade was on accepting the outcome of a game and never giving up! During our scooter unit students participated in various dynamic activities such as Spaghetti and Meatballs tag and beanbag balance relay.

4th Grade

4th Graders were able to show off their creativity and their ability to communicate effectively with teammates in our cooperative games unit. In the activity "Tumbling Towers" students were tasked with building the tallest free-standing tower with random items their team selected from the center of the gym. Students learned the importance of learning from mistakes as a team when something falls apart or doesn't work out. 4th graders were also eager to use the scooters during our scooter unit. Students were able to participate safely in challenging activities to exercise utilizing their scooters.

Reminder:

For their safety, students **must wear sneakers** in order to participate in PE! Thank you!

ART ROOM NEWS!

In December we focused on making art for the holidays and the Unified Arts extravaganza. I hope you had a chance to see the talents of our 4th graders in this holiday celebration video.

Currently, we are playing catch up for the new year and finishing up all the unfinished work.

- We will be continuing our color unit for Second Grade. All Second Graders should know their Primary and Secondary colors by now. We will be learning to mix colors next!
- Grade three finished up the shape unit and will begin 3D work soon. They should know the difference between organic and geometric shapes now.
- Grade 4 has finished a unit on color and Abstract art. They should know about color value and tints and shades. They should also know what Abstract Art is. They finished some acrylic Abstract Expressionist paintings and expressed an emotion. They are very expressive!

Artwork should be coming home soon!

NEEDED IN ART ROOM : Extra large 16 Oz plastic margarine or Cool Whip containers.

Science

Newsletter from Science What great activities we are exploring this quarter for all the kiddos at KMS.

- The fourth graders have been learning about the different forms of energy. MELTS (Mechanical, Electrical, Light, Thermal and Sound) So far the students have learned how to make series and parallel circuits. The funniest part was watching them light up Christmas Lights. Light energy has been introduced and so much energy yet to explore.
- The third graders have been learning about Motion and Forces. They had challenges on how to move cars without touching them. Next they learned about friction and gravity. A lot of building is taking place as they build roller coasters and bridges. Great way to see forces in motion.
- Second graders have had a fun time learning about landforms. They made a fun diorama using a variety of sweets. Next they are learning about land changes. Erosion was first on the list as they used water and wind to witness firsthand how land changes with different types of environments. So much fun in Science throughout the grades. Don't forget about our year-long pumpkin experiment. The students are enjoying watching the changes and evaluating and reviewing their hypotheses. We have one outside and one inside. It is a great learning opportunity for the kids to witness life cycles. If there are any questions please feel free to contact me at kvincent@killinglyschools.org Thank you, Ms. Vincent



News from the SPEECH ROOM

We are learning about the Winter Season.
How do you build a snowman?

(Sequencing)

What do you wear in the winter? Why?

(Describing ,Categorizing, Function)

We will explore Winter Idioms, such as,
Cold turkey. ..

Under the weather. ...

Snowball effect. ...

Walking on thin ice.



Here are some books you might be
interested in checking out of the library.

The Mitten – Jan Brett

There Was a Cold Lady Who Swallowed
Some Snow – Lucille Colandro

The Biggest Snowman Ever-Steven Kroll

If your child is absent due to quarantine, a speech activity will be posted to your child's Google Classroom under the Speech topic on the left hand side of the screen. There will also be a Google Meet link for you to check in if you should have any questions or would like to say "hello." We will be available in the Google Meet on Fridays from 2:45-3:00pm.

Mrs. Orbegozo M.S.,CCC-SLP

Mrs. Boyle C-SLPA



BRRRR-- It's cold outside!

Just a reminder that children must have one recess a day, at KMS this is a 30-minute session, in addition student also take occasional mask breaks. Recess is held outdoors unless there is precipitation or a temperature below 25 degrees. With this in mind it is important that students come to school with appropriate winter clothing daily: coats, hats, gloves or mittens. Thank you.

Notes about Attendance

One of the most important things you can do to help your child succeed in school is to make sure he or she is in school every day. When students miss school, they miss critical opportunities to learn and participate. Each lesson and class is critical to learning. The material covered each day depends on the lesson from the day before and introduces ideas for the next day. Academic instruction begins promptly at 8:35am and ends promptly at 3:20pm. The occasional tardy or early dismissal is acceptable and unavoidable, but every tardy or dismissal means time missed from your child's instruction. Tardy and early dismissal are logged into your child's attendance record just as absences are. Arrivals at school after 12:00pm are considered a full day absence. Early dismissals from school before 12:00pm are considered a full day absence.

When your child must be absent, please

- Call the absentee line at (860) 779-6699 to report your child absent, or log onto the KMS home page under "Parent" and submit an absentee note. Students must be reported absent prior to 9:15 am, otherwise an automated call will be placed
- A note must be sent in to KMS when your child returns to school in order for the absence to be considered "Excused". Please indicate the date of the absence as well as the reason for the absence. If your child has been to the doctor or the dentist please request a note from the Doctor/Dentist Office. Any absences that are excused with Doctors note will be coded as "Medical" and do not count toward the nine absences that the State of Connecticut counts as "excused for any reason". Doctor's notes for Tardys and Early Dismissals are also recommended.

Thank you for your cooperation in this very important matter.