

# KENAI MIDDLE NEWSLETTER

January | 2024

Welcome to 2024.....

Amazing as it may seem, we just started the last semester of the school year. As we enter this semester, I would like to encourage every parent to help keep their children focused on school. Winter seems to get long this time of the year and students need to be encouraged to stay involved in school activities and homework. Research has shown that students who attend school on time and have regular attendance perform much better than their peers who have excessive tardies or unexcused absences. Parents and teachers have the same goal - to provide the best education for their children/students. Working together we can maximize the educational opportunities for every child. As always, I want to thank you for choosing KMS as a school for your child. As a team, we can provide your student with a great environment for success.

To help break up the monotony of our long winter, KMS has a tradition of doing clubs. On five Wednesdays in January/February staff and students will be taking a break from the classroom the last hour of the day. Your son or daughter should have signed up for a club before the holiday break. Please ask them what club they signed up for. If they are new to the school or did not sign up for a club, please have them see the ladies at the office and we will get them signed up for a club. Clubs will start on Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>.

January, February and March are prime learning months. Staff will be pushing students to maximize their learning. We appreciate anything and everything you can do at home to assist your child in completing homework, studying nightly, getting plenty of sleep, and valuing a quality education. We value your educational partnership! Your child's success is our goal, and we can't reach that without your support and efforts.

We are excited about a motivational speaker that is coming to KMS on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00am. This event is open to the community and parents. If you have time, please join us. You can look up Mr. Koch's website at [ifican.ca](http://ifican.ca).

As always, Kenai Middle School offers an After School Tutoring Program three nights a week. If you would like to have your child in the program, please contact the office at 283-1700. After school tutoring transportation is available to a few different locations in the community.

We will have a regular school day on March 29<sup>th</sup>. This day is our snow make up day. Additionally, we are scheduled for early releases on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and February 9<sup>th</sup>.

There will be no school on February 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Kenai Middle will be holding second semester parent-teacher conferences. Core teachers will be in the gym, and exploratory staff members will be in the cafeteria area.

Again, we look forward to working with you to provide a meaningful academic experience for your child. If you have a neighbor or know of someone who has a middle school student that is looking for a great school with lots of opportunities, we would love your recommendation that they come visit KMS. As always, we encourage you to communicate your concerns and comments (907) 283-1700.

Vaughn Dosko  
Principal, Kenai Middle School



## CLUBS

KMS has a long-standing tradition of Winter Clubs. Each Wednesday, for 5 weeks following Holiday Break, the Teachers and Staff offer an assortment of Clubs for students where they might learn a new skill or hobby.

Students will not be missing out on regular core or exploratory classes, because each class period has been shortened five minutes to allow for a club period at the end of the day. This is an excellent opportunity for staff members to get to know different students in the building, while sharing some of their talents. Examples of some of the clubs offered are; Hockey, rock climbing, anime, gym games, board games, crafts, tea & books and computer games.

Clubs start Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>.

## 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> GRADE FIELD TRIPS

Mark your calendars! Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> will be an exciting day of learning for KMS 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. All 7<sup>th</sup> graders will head out to Island Lake for a day of ice fishing. 8<sup>th</sup> graders will head to Solid Rock for indoor/outdoor activities and field trip on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>!

Make sure your student has appropriate outdoor gear ready to go for these amazing opportunities!

## CAPTURE YOUR MEMORIES IN THIS YEAR'S

## KENAI MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARBOOK!

### Customize Your 2 Free Pages

Add photos from your computer, Facebook, Instagram, Google Drive & more.

Answer fun Memory Questions to help remember the year.

The 2 Custom Pages are FREE and are printed ONLY in your book. Want more pages? Each additional 2 pages is just \$0.99.

### To Purchase & Customize Your Yearbook

Must be a parent or student 13 years or older.

1 Go to: [www.treering.com/validate](http://www.treering.com/validate)

2 Enter you school's passcode:

**101283205764347**

Regular price: **\$22.04**

Create Custom Pages by: **Mar 17**

**treering**



## AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING

After school tutoring continues. Students will be recommended to this program by their teachers, and parents can also request their student be considered. There is limited space. Typically, afterschool tutoring takes place three days a week until 4pm. Limited bussing is available. Students accepted into the program are expected to attend every day it is offered. Attendance will be taken. Students must remain in their study hall classroom and will not be permitted to roam the building.

Contact the KMS Office for more information 907-283-1700.



## PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Conferences are coming! There will be no school for students on February 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>. Stay tuned for conference schedules and formats. If you are unable to attend conferences, please contact the school to schedule a conference with your teacher. We look forward to seeing you.

## SPELLING BEE

The KMS School Spelling Bee will be held on Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup>! Each Language Arts class will have preliminary bees, to select participants in the school wide bee!



## ALUMINUM CANS

Be prepared! Start saving your aluminum cans for Mini Courses. They occur at the end of the school year. Bringing in a large trash bag full of crushed cans gets your students the opportunity to choose mini courses before those students that do not bring cans! Please do not bring cans to school now, we will let you know when we will collect them!

## BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

Battle of the Books is a game show style competition between teams of students from different schools, who have all read the same group of books and compete to answer the most correct questions about the books they read. Kenai Middle School has two teams entered in this year's Battle of the Books competition. Our 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade team will compete on Wednesday, February 7<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade team will compete on Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>.

# KENAI MIDDLE SCHOOL 2023 / 2024 SPORTS AT A GLANCE



## 7TH & 8TH GRADE

EVENT	BEGINNING DATE	ENDING DATE
X-Country Running	8/15/23	9/30/23
Soccer	8/15/23	9/30/23
Basketball (Intramurals)	10/2/23	10/20/23
Basketball (Competitive)	10/23/23	12/9/23
Volleyball (Intramurals)	1/3/24	1/19/24
Volleyball (Competitive)	1/22/24	3/2/24
Wrestling	1/3/24	3/2/24
X-Country Skiing	1/3/24	2/24/24
Track & Field	3/25/24	5/11/24

## 6TH GRADE

EVENT	BEGINNING DATE	ENDING DATE
X-Country Running	8/15/23	9/30/23
Soccer	8/15/23	9/3/23
Wrestling	1/3/24	3/2/24
X-Country Skiing	1/3/24	2/24/24
Volleyball (Intramural)	March - TBA	March - TBA
Basketball (Intramural)	March - TBA	March - TBA
Track	3/25/24	5/11/24

Updated 5/23/2023

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

It's hard to believe it's time to start thinking about the next school year! 8th grade students will be attending a tour of KCHS elective offerings on February 21st, followed by scheduling with the KCHS high school counselors on February 22nd. Current 6th and 7th graders will be inputting elective requests for the upcoming school year the same week. All requests will be handled online, so no paper copies to sign and return! If you plan for your student to attend a different school next year, please contact the office at 283-1700.

# WINTER SPORTS

## WRESTLING

HELLO 6TH, 7TH & 8TH GRADE WRESTLERS AND PARENTS,

THE WRESTLING SEASON RUNS FROM JANUARY 4 THROUGH MARCH 2. PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER SCHOOL EACH DAY FROM 2:30 – 4:30PM, WHEN THERE IS A FULL DAY OF SCHOOL. WE WILL NOTIFY YOUR SON/DAUGHTER IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES MADE TO THE SCHEDULE.

STUDENTS NEED TO WEAR THEIR PE UNIFORM AND TENNIS OR WRESTLING SHOES TO PRACTICE. HEADGEAR WILL ALSO BE A REQUIREMENT, WHICH CAN BE PURCHASED AT BEEMUNS IN SOLDOTNA FOR AROUND \$20.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT SEASON AT KMS.

COACH NAVARRE, COACH SAVELY, COACH BROWN.

## VOLLEYBALL

Intramural volleyball has started! The competitive part of the season will begin Monday, January 22nd. KMS will kick things off with a Jamboree in Nikiski on Saturday, January 27th at 10:00 AM.

A full season has been scheduled for all teams and we look forward to the games ahead. Be sure to ask your athlete for a team schedule to prepare for upcoming games!

The season will end with Boroughs on March 2<sup>nd</sup> @ Kenai!

## NORDIC SKI

It's time for XC skiing at KMS! Our KMS XC Skiing program is full of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, ready to get outside and ski! Practices will run from 2:30-4:15 Monday-Friday. Most Thursdays or Fridays will be Race Days! The longer practice allows time to get geared up to ski, wax skis if needed before heading out to ski on the trails.

Students will be ready each day to be picked up at 4:20 PM so parents please be prompt. Thank you in advance!

Skiers need to come prepared for the weather and dress in layers. Hat/headband, mittens/gloves, wool socks, neck warmer/balaclava/buff, coat, and a Swix type ski pant for skiing are all a MUST. No cotton or jeans please.

Students should bring a water bottle for before and after practice. An extra snack is also helpful for before or after practice as well. Skiers burn a lot of energy!



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Updated 5/23/2023

**"If I Can"**  
**Chris Koch**  
Motivational Speaker

Join us at  
Kenai Middle  
Everyone is welcome!  
Jan. 22nd @  
10 am



Presented by KMS  
Sources of Strength  
We are the equity,  
rooted in 100%  
community.



## IMPORTANT DATES

**1/12**

Early Release

**1/17**

Clubs Start

**1/26**

Early Release

**2/15-**

**2/16**

Parent/Teacher  
Conferences

## NOVEMBER STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our November Students  
of the Month:

Maricela Beckman, Truman Dodson, Teddy  
Dodge, Rosie Dura, Sienna Graham,  
Kennah Gregory, Nolen James, Riley  
McGahan, Megan Ross, Jay Songer,  
Andrew Stein, Gage Sturman, Lily Taliesin,  
Tatem Van Slyke, Fred Zimin

# January 2024

## Highlights for January

1 <sup>st</sup>	Happy New Year	
6 <sup>th</sup>	Robotics Competition	
12 <sup>th</sup>	Early Release	

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1 Happy New Year	2 No School/ In Service	3 VB/Wrestling/Ski Starts	4	5	6 Robotics Competition	7
8	9	10	11	12 Early Release	13	14
	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring			
15	16	17 Clubs Start	18	19	20 Wrestling @ Seward 10am	21
	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring			
22	23	24 Clubs	25 Spelling Bee	26 Early Release	27 Wrestling @ Homer 10am VB Jamboree @ NKS	28
	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring			
29	30 VB 8 vs 7 @ Kenai 3pm	31 Clubs				
	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring				

# February 2024

## Highlights for February

9	Early Release	
15/16th	No School Conferences	
21	Spring Pictures	

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
			1 VB 7 v SkyV 7 3pm VB 8 v SkyV 8 4pm	2	3 WR @ SkyV 10 am	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Site Council Meeting 5PM	VB 7 @ Swd 3pm Battle of the Books 6 <sup>th</sup> After School Tutoring	Clubs VB 7 @ SkyV 3pm VB 8 @ SkyV 4pm Battle of the Books 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> After School Tutoring	VB 8 @ Swd 3pm After School Tutoring	Early Release VB 8 @ NKS 3pm	WR @ NKS 10 am	
12	13 VB 7 @ Homer 3pm After School Tutoring	14 Clubs VB 8 @ Homer 3pm After School Tutoring	15 No School-Conferences	16 No School-Conferences	17 WR @ Kenai 10 am	18
19	20	21 Spring Pictures	22 VB 7 @ NKS 3pm	23	24 WR Boroughs @ Seward 10am	25
	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring			
26	27 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Bball starts VB 1 <sup>st</sup> Round Boroughs	28	29			
	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring	After School Tutoring			