

# KENAI MIDDLE NEWSLETTER

January | 2026

Welcome to 2026.....

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, the cold, the snow and even some rain is here, whether we like it or not. This make the winter season seem long. 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. 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 are taking a break from the classroom the last hour of the day. Clubs started on Wednesday, January 14th and will continue through the 11th of February.

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.

Kenai Middle School offers an After School Tutoring Program three days 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.

There will be no school on February 12th and 13th. 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. We will have arena style conferences on the 12th from noon till 4pm and 5pm to 7pm. On Friday the 13th, we will be having scheduled conferences. If these times and dates do not work for you, please call the school and we will find a date and time that works for you.

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 any concerns and comments.

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, crochet, gym games, board games, crafts, tea & books, line dancing and computer games. Clubs started Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup>.

## COUNSELOR'S CORNER

February will be busy!

8th grade students will be attending a tour of KCHS elective offerings in February, and meeting with the KCHS School Counselors to begin the transition process to high school. Current 6th and 7th graders will be inputting elective requests for the upcoming school year.

If you plan for your student to attend a different school next year, please contact the office at 283-1700.

## 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 (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday) 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 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<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 teachers. We look forward to seeing you.

## SPELLING BEE

The KMS School Spelling Bee is coming soon! 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. Mini Courses 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 4<sup>th</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade team will compete on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.

# It's not too late to purchase the

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To purchase your yearbook go to [Treering.com](https://Treering.com) →

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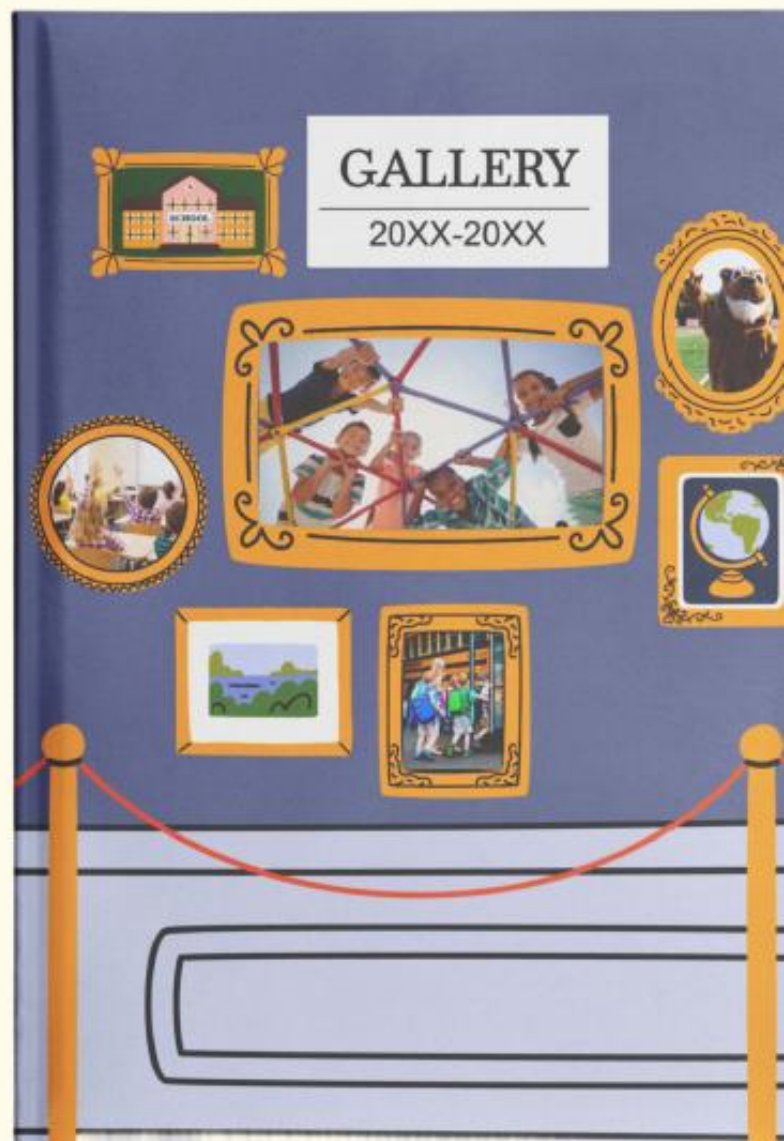
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2. Enter your school's passcode:

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Regular price: **\$24.24**

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Deadline: **Mar 18**





# WINTER SPORTS

## WRESTLING

HELLO 6<sup>TH</sup>, 7<sup>TH</sup>, & 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE WRESTLERS AND PARENTS.

THE WRESTLING SEASON RUNS FROM JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>. PRACTICE WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER SCHOOL EACH DAY FROM 2:30 – 4:00. WE WILL NOTIFY YOUR SON/DAUGHTER IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES MADE TO THE SCHEDULE.

STUDENTS NEED TO WEAR THEIR PE UNIFORM AND WRESTLING SHOES TO PRACTICE. HEADGEAR WILL ALSO BE A REQUIREMENT, WHICH CAN BE PURCHASED AT BEEMUNS IN SOLDOTNA FOR AROUND \$20. THE FEE FOR WRESTLING IS \$100.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO A GREAT SEASON AT KMS.

## VOLLEYBALL

Intramural volleyball has started! Practices run after school from 2:30-4:30. The competitive part of the season will begin Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. KMS will kick things off with a Jamboree on January 31<sup>st</sup>. The intramural portion of volleyball is \$50 and the competitive portion is an additional \$50.

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 in Homer on Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>.

## NORDIC SKI

It's time for XC skiing at KMS! Our KMS XC Skiing program is full of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders, ready to get outside and ski! Practices will run from 2:30-4:00 Monday-Friday. Most Fridays will be Race Days! The ski fee is \$100.

Skiers need to come prepared for practice. Weather dependent, indoor practices are always a possibility. Most days, be ready to 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 have 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!