

Thurs, Mar  
28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

DREAM  
BIG

WORK  
HARD

BE KIND

# Kennedy News Today



Issue #17

School's Latest News & Updates

## MARCH 2024

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## *"Principally" Speaking* by Dr. Cheryll James

Greetings Parents/Guardians,

Spring is here (despite the chilly temperatures that remain as March comes to an end). And March is the perfect time to dust off those winter cobwebs and get outside and enjoy the beauty of spring! Unbelievably, we are quickly approaching the end of the 3rd quarter for the SY 2023-2024 (attached you will find your scholars 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Progress Report). During the month of March our team continued to focus on delivering educational and engaging instructional activities for our students while ensuring delivery of their goals and services as outlined on their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). Since March was also recognition of Women's History Month, we also shared daily with students the profiles of various trailblazing, iconic, and historical women and their contributions and impact on society and the world. Additionally, March marked the beginning of the district wide assessments which will continue in April following the return from Spring Break.

During this Spring Season, please ensure scholars are enjoying engaging in productive activities such as some of the suggested family fun activities included in this newsletter; as well as reading, math, spelling, Typing.com, IXL and other educational computer programs to strengthen their academic skills, writing; and daily repeating and exhibiting of our school's mantra Dream Big, Work Hard, & Be Kind, etc. versus spending too much time on social media, video games, cell phones (and not using them for engagement in appropriate texting and calling), excessive television watching, video game playing, etc. In just a few weeks, we will again offer our evening of Family Math Series which is a fun and engaging workshop! We hope to have even more families participate this year. Flyers for this event are attached.

### Just a few updates and reminders:

- ✓ Students are to be in school uniform daily unless they have earned dress down days on Friday (if assistance with obtaining uniforms is needed, please let us know)
- ✓ Timely daily attendance is important to ensuring your child's academic and social progress. Late arrivals and absences add up, which is not good as we are mandated to follow the District's attendance and truancy policy, and students' performance is negatively impacted by poor attendance. The following link is the District's attendance/truancy policy: <https://dcps.dc.gov/publication/attendance-and-truancy-policy.com>;
- ✓ Please ensure that you respond to our nurses when they contact you via letters sent home, phone, and/or email about your child's health and immunization records and medications so that your child does not have to miss school because their health records are not current;
- ✓ Any issues with OSSE bus transportation should be reported to the transportation hotline 202-576-5000.

Included in this March Newsletter are several family activities for the month of March so please consider getting out and participating in some of them. And as always Parents + Educators working in Partnership = Successful Students!

Warmest Regards,

*Cheryll-James*

Cheryll James, PhD, CSSGB, CPM





# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dress Down Day is  
**DRESS  
DOWN  
DAY**  
EVERY FRIDAY  
for students that arrive  
correctly in School  
Uniform every day!

School Closures for  
the Month  
April 16<sup>th</sup>:  
DC Emancipation Day

A logo for DC Emancipation Day. It features a central diamond shape with a red banner across it that says "DC EMANCIPATION DAY". The diamond is filled with a pattern of stars and stripes, and the text "DAY" is written in large, bold, white letters at the bottom of the diamond.

Family Math Program is  
BACK!!!!

On the following Thursdays for 4 Weeks:

An icon for the Family Math Program. It shows a stylized house with a bell on top. Inside the house, there are colorful circles representing people. Surrounding the house are various mathematical symbols like pi, infinity, and numbers.

- April 25<sup>th</sup>
- May 2<sup>nd</sup>
- May 9<sup>th</sup>
- May 16<sup>th</sup>

Please check your child's  
backpacks daily as  
teachers, administrators,  
and nurses will  
periodically send  
information home  
requiring your attention.

NEED TO REACH A STAFF MEMBER AT  
THE KENNEDY SCHOOL?

An icon of a red rotary telephone. The word "Absence" is written above the phone and "Reporting" is written below it.

The School's Main Number  
is 202-281-2700

# Scholars Shoutouts



## CONGRATUALTIIONS TO...

# SUMMER

for meeting the Student of the Month Criteria for the Month of March

“Summer comes to school daily in uniform and has received numerous recognitions of perfect on time attendance. She also takes initiative in helping others and is one of the students who

prepares cards for staff and students for various things.” – Dr. James

“Summer always greets me with a big hug and smile! She displays great leadership skills throughout the school building and while out at work. Summer keeps up the great work. You are an Amazing Young Lady” – Ms. Nicole



## CONGRATUALTIIONS TO...

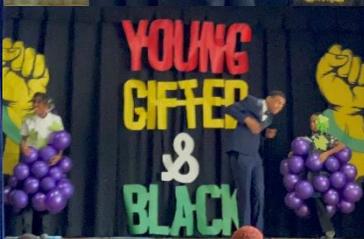
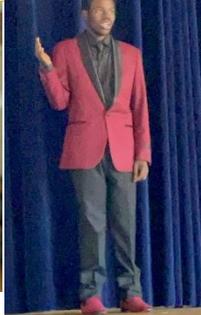
AHMED, SUMMER, TOMAS, RAYVON, RAHIEM, TAVION, GREGORY ARTWONE, JULIUS, KALYNN, RONNIE, TYSHANN, DEMARCUS, MYKIA



for meeting the Perfect Attendance Criteria for the Month of March. Thank you for always being present and ready to learn.

During the Month of March, we CELEBRATED BLACK HISTORY MONTH &

Students explored many different fun activities such as learning about the Solar Energy Panels, Building Bridges with given materials, etc.



# Staff Corner



We Honor our Phenomenal Women of Kennedy of SY 2023-2024

## CONGRATUALATIONS TO...

### Ms. SHERELL SLOAN

(CLASSROOM PARAPROFESSIONAL)

for meeting the Staff of the Month Criteria for the Month of March!

## CONGRATUALATIONS TO...

### Ms. COLEEN JOHNSON & MR. ISAAC KORNEGAY

(OUR SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS)

WE APPRECIATE YOU FOR EVERYTHING THAT YOU DO FOR OUR STUDENTS.

# Shoutouts

I have named the following group of students "The Math Wizards" because they are always soaring in their math skills when I stop and quiz them on math facts/problem solving: Tavion, Rhys, Rayvon, DeMarcus, Summer, Kalynn, and Ayden; - Dr. James

My other is to Assistant Principal Ms. Nicole Meadows who got our Standardized Testing off to a great start, managing and executing all things IEP related; and for her consistent support. -Dr. James

Last Shout out is to Office Coordinator Mr. Keon Young who has provided a great deal of assistance in completing the school's Certificate of Approval Renewal Application! - Dr. James

## MARCH IS SOCIAL WORK MONTH



PARAPROFESSIONALS  
• EDUCATORS •  
because even  
• TEACHERS •  
need heroes too



# Parent University

## 5 HEALTHY PARENTING TIPS

1. ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD

2. SET BOUNDARIES

3. SET ROUTINES

4. SET REWARDS

5. KEEP IT FUN



**MARCH**  
BIRTHDAYS



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF THE MARCH BIRTHDAYS!**

**RAHIEM, JORDAN, & COACH**



*Your birthday is in March like the coming of the spring. I'm constantly reminded of the sunshine that you bring. May you always be as happy as you can along the way. May the love and joy you give be returned to you each day.*

  
**CELEBRATE  
MARCH  
BIRTHDAYS**

# Word of the Month

# AUTHENTIC

 [/'Ō'THEN(T)IK/] adjective.

[of undisputed origin; real; genuine.]

“This letter is now accepted as an **AUTHENTIC** document.”

“A local cook was hired to provide the **AUTHENTIC** southern-style meals at the lodge.”

## Community Resources

### APRIL FAMILY FUN EVENTS

Washington, D.C. offers a host of spring activities perfect for the whole family. Below are just a few suggestions for you to choose from:

- ✓ Spring Fun guide for kids and families in Washington, DC: Enjoy the best that Washington, DC has to offer as it awakens for the spring season. In the link below are all the details on the best things to do in DC with children during the Spring - Cherry Blossoms, Easter fun with Easter egg hunts, Easter Bunny photos, spring festivals, local parks and playgrounds, etc.: [Spring Fun Guide for Kids and Families in Washington DC | Mommy Poppins](#)
- ✓ 2024 Cherry Blossom Festival with over 200 events is scheduled for March 20th thru April 14th - the following link provides many of the events: [DC Cherry Blossom Festival Guide & Map \[2024\]](#) (freetoursbyfoot.com)
- ✓ Japanese Street Festival - Early April; Pennsylvania Ave, NW between 3rd & 7th St, NW The largest one-day celebration of Japanese culture in the United States; including musical and dance performances on four different stages; and a whole host of food vendors present the best in Japanese foods. [www.sakuramatsuri.org](#)
- ✓ Smithsonian Jazz Appreciation Month - National Museum of American History: This celebration was designed to encourage the public to keep up on their jazz appreciation thus the museum will host concerts throughout the month of April: This was started by the museum in 2001 to celebrate the history of jazz and the heritage of those involved in its creation. [www.americanhistoy.si.edu](#)
- ✓ D.C. Emancipation Day Cultural Events - located at several Universities and other locations throughout the city in Mid-April. The celebration will include various lecture series, a parade, fireworks, and a panel of historians, researchers, experts, and others examine the politics and forces behind and resistance to slavery, abolition and emancipation. [DC Emancipation Day 2023](#)

# Social Media Awareness

## Social Media Safety Tips

<p><b>1 LAWS</b> Many sites and web tools are 13+. Most images and work online are protected by copyright. </p>	<p><b>2 TALK</b> Tell your parents what you're doing online. Always ask a trusted adult if you're unsure of anything. </p>
<p><b>3 FRIENDS</b> Don't add or meet online friends without parent permission. Don't trust everything friends tell you. </p>	<p><b>4 PRIVACY</b> Keep personal info private: Your full name, Address, Phone number, Passwords, Your plans and birthday. </p>
<p><b>5 REPUTATION</b> Don't post anything you wouldn't want teachers, family, friends, and future employers to see. </p>	<p><b>6 QUESTION</b> You can't believe everything you read and see online. There's a lot of incorrect and biased info. </p>
<p><b>7 BULLYING</b> Tell someone if you think cyberbullying is happening to you or other people you know. </p>	<p><b>8 ACCOUNTS</b> Choose sensible email addresses and usernames. Use strong passwords and don't share them with others. </p>
<p><b>9 MANNERS</b> Be polite and respectful at all times. Treat others online how you'd like to be treated. </p>	<p><b>10 UNPLUG</b> Balance your screen time and green time. Get outdoors, move, play, and interact face to face. </p>

DHANISHTHA VATS 7<sup>th</sup> DELTA INDIRA NATIONAL SCHOOL

