

Fri, Apr,
11th, 25

DREAM
BIG

WORK
HARD

BE KIND

The

Kennedy
Express



SY 24-25

Issue #4

School's Latest News & Updates

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"Principally "Speaking by Dr. Cheryll James

Dear Parents/Families/Guardians & Program Supporters,

School year 2024 – 2025 is flying by as its already Spring! February and March were busy months for us at the Kennedy School! Our staff and students have been involved in numerous activities including academics, trips, internal and external programs and events, etc. which have provided enrichment for all. Please review this bi-monthly Newsletter which highlights a variety of items that we want to alert you of.

During February we had a modified version of our Black History Program at the end of the month and daily we profiled a different history making person for Black History Month sharing a variety of information about the persons being profiled. There were photos, trivia questions, coloring pages, videos, and interesting facts shared with students about these historical and trailblazing pioneers.

During March we celebrated Women’s History Month primarily in the same format that we recognized Black History Month by profiling a different iconic history making woman daily and ensuring “Herstory” and as one of our student groups noted during their sharing about these phenomenal women during their “...She Said So” segment. We also had a Career Day during March where a variety of representatives from various organizations came and spoke to our students sharing information about various careers; and later that day we had a Go-Go Band come and play which allowed students and staff the opportunity to dance, sing, and mingle with the band. Let’s just say at the end of that day many did not want to go home.

While the end of the school year is quickly approaching it is still imperative that students are still putting forth best efforts and exhibiting our school mantra daily; therefore, please continue to encourage them to do so. Additionally, the following are some reminders that we truly need your support with regarding our school policies and procedures as well as those mandated by the District:

- Daily student on time attendance is not just about being present; it's about actively participating in the learning process and maximizing opportunities for growth. We believe that consistent attendance fosters a sense of responsibility and commitment to learning that is essential for success both in school and beyond. Additionally, we are mandated to follow the District’s attendance and truancy policy.
- All students are required to wear the designated school uniform. Your support with this school policy is appreciated. If you require assistance with purchasing school uniforms then please contact your child’s Social Worker or notify administrators so that we can assists.
- Since we are technically at the half way point of our year-round school year this might be a good time to review the parent/student handbook as a reminder of our school policies and procedures; and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions regarding any of the information in the handbook.
- Issues with OSSE’s Department of Transportation please contact their hotline number 202-576-5000 to file your complaints

Finally, as always thanks for partnering with us because Parents/Guardians + Educators working in partnership = Successful Students

Warmest Regards,

Cheryll J James

Cheryll James, PhD, CSSGB, CPM



IMPORTANT
ANNOUNCEMENT



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dress Down Day is

**DRESS
DOWN
DAY**

EVERY FRIDAY
for students that arrive
correctly in School
Uniform every day!

School Closures & ½ Days

April

4/14~4/21: Spring Break

4/22: No School for Students:
Parent Teacher Conference

May

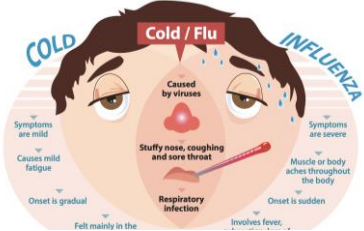
5/23: Prom & ½ Day

June

6/13: Last Day & ½ Day



COLD & FLU Season is upon is...
Please do not send students to school
if they are sick, have a runny nose,
severe/constant cough, fever, etc.



PROM

Theme: Once Upon A Time

Date: Friday, May 23rd

Time: 7pm~11pm

Ages: 14& UP

Flyer with more details
coming soon!

We are entering our last season of

Special Olympics...

Finals are COMING UP in May!

If you would like to support your scholar,
more information will be coming out after
Spring Break.



**Special
Olympics**
District of Columbia

NEED TO REACH A STAFF MEMBER AT
THE KENNEDY SCHOOL?



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

Have TRANSPORTATION concerns or
questions, contact the
Parent Control Center @
202~576~5000



Scholars Corner



CONGRATUALTIONS TO...

MYKIA (FEBRUARY) & **AKHIL** (MARCH) for

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



CONGRATUALTIONS TO...

FEBRUARY: AHMED, SUMMER, ZELVON, TOMAS, RAYVON, AKHIL, T'KEYAH, GREGORY, ARTWONE, JULIUS
JANUARY: AHMED, SUMMER, TOMAS, KAMILA, RAYVON, AKHIL, TAVION, GREGORY, ARTWONE, ZION, EMANUEL, JULIUS, KALYNN

For meeting the Perfect Attendance Criteria for the month of February & March. Thank you in advance for doing your part to ensure your scholar is present and on time.

Shoutouts

- “Mykia is always positive and prepared for class/ showing great progress too” - **Mr. Pike**
- I want to S/O Kevin for always helping others in class.~**Mr. Moore**
- I would like to give Kayden a shout out for his positive attitude and hard work in Physical Education!!!-**Coach**
- Shoutout to Tyshann for being persistent will learning new concepts in Career Exploration ~**Ms.Nyesha**
- Shoutout to Rayvon for working very hard and always exhibiting the “work hard” portion of our school mantra. -**Ms.Bria & Ms. Holland**
- “Akhil infectious positivity and always participates in all classroom lessons” - **Mr. Pike**



Staff Corner



DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY WE CELEBRATED BLACK HISTORY MONTH & SPREADED OUR LOVE WITH EACH OTHER ON VALENTINE'S DAY!

CONGRATUALATIONS TO...

MRS. PEGGY HOLLAND

(CLASSROOM PARAPROFESSIONAL/MATH SUB)

MRS. DEBBIE BUTLER

(CLASSROOM PARAPROFESSIONAL/ART TEACHER)
for meeting the Staff of the Month Criteria for the Month of February!

MS. RENEE MILLER

(CLASSROOM PARAPROFESSIONAL)

MR. CHRISTOPHER PIKE

(ELA TEACHER)

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



WELCOME ABOARD TO...

MS. SHEIERRA JENNINGS, OUR NEW CLASSROOM PARAPROFESSIONAL!!

Shoutouts

Peggy Holland for consistent timely attendance and submission of leave request and time approvals; always willing to serve as substitute no matter the subject or duration, assisting with training temporary teacher, consistently holding students accountable and timely submissions of time approvals and leave requests.

Debbie Butler for consistent timely attendance, being our artists in residence (art teacher) who is a visionary artist always creating and/or leading others to support the creation of decorations for various school events and wearing other numerous hats including food handler and supporter of students volunteering in the community.

Renee Miller for consistent timely attendance and submission of time approvals and leave request, regular communication, serving as substitute teacher for extended period, assisting daycare program after work hours, readily taking initiative and volunteering for many other duties including serving as food handler.

Christopher Pike for consistently meeting all due date deadlines including submission of lesson plans, all things IEP related, consistent timely attendance and submission of time approvals and leave request; etc.; nominations of students for monthly awards; serving on and contributing to a variety of committees; and sharing ideas and suggestions for both program and student supports/improvements.

Shout out to our lovely assistant principal Ms. Nicole for all of her leadership, support, and dedication to both staff and students. We appreciate you.

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

**TOMAS, KAMILA, KALIEL,
MR. MOORE, COACH YOUNG,**



Words of the Month

**Practice Makes
Perfect**

**PLEASE PRACTICE (SAYING,
WRITING, & SPELLING) THESE
WORDS WITH YOUR SCHOLAR.**

- ✓ CLASS WORD LIST
- ✓ ALPHABETICAL
ORDER
- ✓ READING
COMPREHENSION
- ✓ PARTS OF SPEECH
- ✓ COUNTING COINS

- ✓ FRACTIONS
- ✓ DIVISION
- ✓ WEATHER
- ✓ COLONIAL
- ✓ CHECKS AND
BALANCES
- ✓ DIGESTIVE SYSTEM
- ✓ SKELETAL SYSTEM
- ✓ EXPERIMENT

Assistant Principal Motivational Quote

USE YOUR
SMILE TO CHANGE
THE WORLD,
DON'T LET THE
WORLD CHANGE
YOUR SMILE.

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." — Eleanor Roosevelt

Stay positive,
work hard, and
make it happen.
Unknown



Mental Health



Community Resources

FAMILY FUN THINGS TO DO IN DMV AREA

- ✓ **12 National Parks to Explore** in and around the Washington DC Metro Area: Discover stunning landscapes, vital history and eye-catching wildlife at these sites - <https://washington.org/visit-dc/national-parks-to-visit-washington-dc>
- ✓ **The National Cherry Blossom Festival** (March 20 - April 13, 2025) is a citywide celebration that commemorates the 1912 gift of 3,000 cherry blossom trees to Washington, DC by the mayor of Tokyo. The Festival features a range of spectacular events and activities, as well as a chance to see the starring attraction during peak bloom! <https://washington.org/visit-dc/national-cherry-blossom-festival-events-washington-dc>
- ✓ **D.C. Emancipation Day** in 2025 will be celebrated on Sunday, April 13. This year marks the 20th Anniversary of the declaration of Emancipation Day as a District holiday. The celebrations will include a parade, festival, concert, and fireworks, all of which are free to attend. <https://emancipation.dc.gov>
- ✓ **The Butterfly Experience at Brookside Gardens** opens April 10, 2025 - Montgomery Parks in Wheaton, MD and runs thru September 21, 2025
- ✓ **Smithsonian Museum** sponsoring numerous free programs during the month of April for Earth Day: Smithsonian Celebrates Earth Day With Free Programming Throughout the Month of April | Smithsonian Institution
- ✓ **Celebrate Earth Day with a 5K Walk on the National Mall** April 19th 10:00 - 3:00 pm expo; and walk begins at 10:00 (walk registration begins at 8:00). Event is sponsored by the Greater Washington Region Clear Cities Coalition
- ✓ **Smithsonian's National Zoo (Admission is free)** is open daily with entry passes required. Families can see a wide range of species from habitats all over the world, including new giant pandas Qing Bao and Bao Li. Make sure to visit the Zoo's website for more information regarding your visit. <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/visit>
- ✓ **Animation land - Through May 11;** The National Children's Museum invites learners from ages 6 to 12 and their families to join Tracey the pencil dog and her crew on a fantastically immersive journey, creating stories using science and imagination. Dive into the world of storytelling and creativity. Kids can develop their own animated masterpiece using animation basics and enjoy a variety of exhibit experiences. Hours & Admission; <https://nationalchildrensmuseum.org/> National Children's Museum, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004
- ✓ **Passport DC (May 1-31)** offers a month of programming across the city that focuses on highlighting international cultures. The Around the World Embassy Tour and the European Union Open House are annual highlights. Most events and tours can be enjoyed entirely free of charge.