



Kensington Parkwood Elementary School

Home of the SOARing Eagles

Thank you for taking time to read the messages this week in their entirety as there are a number of important communications.

Teaching Tolerance

The events that took place this past week at the Capitol Building unfortunately are the harsh reality of the current world we live in. As educators, we commit to leading our students through times of crisis by allowing time for listening, time for questions, and time for processing. At KP, our daily class meetings are purposefully structured in this way with a goal of promoting and teaching tolerance.

"We view tolerance as a way of thinking and feeling—but most importantly, of acting—that gives us peace in our individuality, respect for those unlike us, the wisdom to discern humane values and the courage to act upon them."

The definition above is taken from www.tolerance.org, which offers a variety of free resources and professional development for educators as we continue to navigate challenges we are faced with. Please feel free to reach out to administration or our school counselor if you are looking for resources or various supports for your children.

January PTA Newsletter

Please use the link below to access this month's PTA Newsletter.

[Click Here](#)

Winter MAP Testing Update

Montgomery County has given elementary schools the option to complete Winter MAP testing. Our KP Leadership Team has met and decided homeroom classes will not be administering the assessments. With that being said, we will administer MAP to a select number of students if we feel more data is needed to inform instructional practices and next steps. The students selected will be based on collaborative conversations between teachers, support staff, and administration. It is important to note our teachers assess students routinely using formal and informal measures and this data is used to drive instruction and ensure student needs are being met. Please also know we will be giving the Spring MAP to students prior to the end of the school year.

Calling all Artists!

Montgomery County is hosting a competition for artwork to be featured in its climate action plan. The competition is open to students and county residents of all ages. Click [here](#) for more information!



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Front Office Staff 411

Our front office has proven to be just as busy as when we have students in the building!

Please note:

If you have any questions regarding student attendance, enrollment/withdrawal, records requests, or any other student-related matter, please direct them to Ms. Allen, our amazing attendance secretary/registrar.

Mrs. Friedman is our stellar administrative secretary who works closely with administration and is responsible for the non-instructional management of the building, including fiscal and system operations.

Student Materials Distribution: *Save the Date!*

We will be doing another round of student material distribution. Please save the following dates and plan on picking up materials for your child between the hours of 9:00am-3:30pm in the lower car rider loop.

- January 28th
- January 29th

Calendar Updates

- ❖ January 18th: Schools & Offices Closed
- ❖ January 28th: End of Marking Period 2
Student Material Pick-Up
- ❖ January 29th: Professional Day for Teachers - No School for Students
Student Material Pick-Up