

Principal's Report  
Florence Budge  
November 13, 2014  
Enrollment: 250

## School Events:

- Students and staff had their first unexpected day off from school on October 8. Phone calls between the head custodian, town crew, Central Office, utility company and me started resonating at 4 a.m. and lasted all morning. The utility company informed us that power was out for 1500 customers with no restoration time predicted. Through a conference call with the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent, it was decided that school would be called. Approximately ten minutes after the call, power was restored. What a day!
- What an exciting fall marathon it was! KCS partnered with the Race for Aydan this year to bring awareness to Aydan and his cause (The Ronald McDonald House). The RFA team provided shirts to all the KCS marathon kids...all 35 of them!! We had a great showing of KCS teachers and staff at the 38th annual pumpkin run...most of whom participated in the KCS marathon by completing 26.1 miles since the start of school. 35 KCS kids ran the 1 mile fun run and were awarded certificates after their race signifying their completeness or participation in the marathon. In addition, 13 KCS students and 10 teachers ran the 5 mile race. One amazing student needs additional recognition...**Will Kirkiles, 4th grader, not only completed nearly 3 full marathons during his morning runs but finished 44th in a field of over 900 runners on race day. Cross country and track coaches should keep their eyes on this outstanding young man!** Ane Starr will be starting up our spring marathon after the snow on the fields melt (assuming we will be getting snow this winter). This program would not be successful without the support and dedication of the teachers who monitor the students each morning, photograph the runners, and create certificates for the participants and Ane who oversees it!
- The adventure continued for the KCS 6<sup>th</sup> Grade when they joined the other Region One 6<sup>th</sup> Graders at Hotchkiss School for SM&SH Day. The day was filled with exciting Science and Math fun. Sixth-Graders listened to experts, participated in workshops (Surprising Fractions, Tessellations, Fourth Dimensions, Quick Freeze, Rubrics Cube, etc.), did lots of activities, got to know each other and they had fun. All the while, they were doing math and science!
- Grandparents and Special Friends' Day was a tremendous success. I'd like to extend a very special thank you to the PTO for their hard work in making the cafeteria inviting! The delicious spread of muffins, croissants, and pastries and the beautiful roses on each table made everyone feel special! In addition, the Student Council assisted guests to their

destination and the PTO volunteers were stationed in key area for any guest who needed help. As I walked through the hallways and into each class, it was clearly evident that this day was a very special one for all of our students, faculty, and guests!

- The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Regional Dance was held at KCS on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The students were able to interact with other students in the region and had a great time. All the proceeds went toward the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade class trip in the spring. There were approximately 150 students at the dance from across the region.
- This month our students have taken trips to the Kent Memorial Library, Ellsworth Farm, Kent Greenhouse, Sloane-Stanley and Seven Hearths. In addition, the PTO arranged a new "book fair experience" for the children. Our students visited the House of Books. Robin Herde was a wonderful host and her staff was attentive and patient with all of the students and their questions. KCS would like to thank the PTO and the House of Books for all the planning, time, and effort that went into making this event a community affair.
- On November 5<sup>th</sup>, Grades 3 and 4 presented the instant smash hit, "*Once Upon a Lilly Pad*." The students, sang, danced and thoroughly entertained the audience. The scenery resembled the backdrop to a Broadway Play! It was a truly wonderful performance! KCS thanks all the parents who volunteered endless hours to make this show a hit!
- The Boys and Girls Soccer teams had a fantastic season. The boys finished first in the league with 7 wins and 0 losses. The girls shared the Championship with Salisbury with 5 wins and 2 ties. Hats off to the teams and to their coaches, Deb Morin and Marty Lindenmayer! On November 7<sup>th</sup> the Kent Center boys' and girls' soccer teams participated in a Region One soccer jamboree. Both the girls and boys felt that this was a positive experience that allowed them to play with members of other teams that they usually compete against. The jamboree provided all 8<sup>th</sup> grade team participants a chance to play. Ann MacNeil provided refreshments for the players after the games as players congratulated each other.
- The Veteran's Celebration was a wonderful event. The Veterans were so very pleased and proud to have been honored at KCS and KCS was honored to have them come. It was a very special time for all.
- Honors Celebration was a memorable time for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade scholars. We all celebrated these positive role models! Congratulations to our Honor's students: Robert Johnson, Thomas Johnson, Beatrice Voorhees, Alexander Sanchez, Cesar Brito-Trinidad, Sammantha Starr, Marcella Dumitrascu, Alyssa Holback, Sarah Mauri, Samuel Foote, Jacob Hoadley, Jason Lambert, Noah Strid, Hayden Giampietro, Charlotte Herde, Josephine Horosky, Maddy Stevens.

- Grades 4-6 from across the district attended the Nutmeg Books Awards on Monday, November 10, 2014 to hear Newbery Award winning and Nutmeg Award nominated author Rebecca Stead speak. It was an enjoyable morning for all!

### **Teacher Seminars**

- On October 9<sup>th</sup> Kent Center School teachers participated in a seminar given at the high school focusing on teacher evaluation elements given by Jen Michno. The afternoon presentation focused upon Regional Initiatives in the areas of Science with STEM Problem-based Learning, Reading & Writing Across Disciplines, Social Studies C<sup>3</sup> Updates and concluding with a video on standards based reporting.
- On October 10<sup>th</sup> the Kent K-5 teachers gathered at KCS for a workshop presented by Ginny Snowden on the STARR Assessment. The workshop entitled " Using Your Student Data to Inform Instruction & Improve Learning" was composed of several area: understanding scores, what reports tell teachers, using benchmarks, and moving from instructional planning reports to instruction by prioritizing and focusing on skills students are ready to learn. It was a fantastic working session and allowed teachers time to look at their own student data, collaborate with their colleagues, and plan for student learning.
- Carly Weiland-Quiros, Education Connection Consultant, worked with staff individually and in group on Student Learning Objective support. As a result teachers were more confident in interpreting data and how they approached writing their goals.

### **November Previews**

- Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>- Parent/Teacher conferences 1pm dismissal
- Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving Share -1 p.m. dismissal
- November 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving Recess