

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
JANUARY 2017
ENROLLMENT: 237

The month of December flew by with fifteen school days, one snow day and one early dismissal day!

On Thursday, December 1st and 8th, Emily Carreiro, Science Educator at South Kent School, brought several of her students from her Earth Education class to teach Mrs. Makarewich's third graders about how plants and animals adapt to their environment. Each lesson was very well presented and engaged the third graders in a variety of hands-on activities. The South Kent students are working towards becoming certified in Project Wild, a nationally acclaimed program. All of Mrs. Makarewich's students said these practicing teachers deserved a 100%!

Trimester 1 report cards went home on December 9 for grades 1-8. A Special Recognition assembly for students in grades 5-8 transpired later in the month on Tuesday, December 20th. Certificates were given to students who made High Honors/Honor Roll. Grades 5-8 had 30 students on High Honor Roll and 37 students on Honor Roll! In addition, recognition certificates were given to students who were acknowledged by their teachers for special accomplishments.

Our Winter Concert was held on December 14. Under the direction of David Poirier, the Intermediate and Senior Bands, as well as the Jazz Band treated the audience to an outstanding performance. The Chorus, under the direction of Sandy Kleisner, also performed exceptionally well. Thanks to the students for all their hard work preparing for the concert.

On December 15th, a very special program occurred in third grade. Mr. Olson, representing Taghannuck Grange #100 located in Sharon, presented each of our students with their very own dictionary. The Grange participates in The Dictionary Project (www.dictionaryproject.org), a wonderful program that works with organizations to provide this useful tool for third graders. Our students were very excited to receive their own dictionary and will be spending class time exploring the many components that make it a useful resource.

The Grange also very generously donated booklets containing the Declaration of Independence and the United State Constitution for use in our 5th and 8th grades Social Studies classes. KCS is very grateful to this organization for their continued support of our students and school.

Under the supervision of Charlotte Allen, thirteen Student Council members carried on the well-loved tradition of visiting the Senior Center Luncheon on December 19 to spread *Holiday Cheer*. Council members and Seniors enjoyed a great arts and crafts project of making beaded pins to share. The Student Council also sang many different holiday songs. However, it must be noted that the best song and most enjoyed by the audience was "Rudolph, The Red Nosed Reindeer" due to the added enhancements made to the song by the Student Council members. All in all, the Student Council was excited to be there as their visit was greatly appreciated by the Seniors. KCS would like to extend a special thank you to the wonderful residents of the town of Kent and

to the KCS Student Council for being part of our community and showing how amazing KCS students are!

During December 15, 16, 19, 20 and 21, Grade 7 and 8 students participated in Hoops for Heart, and students in grades 2-6 participated in Jump Rope for Heart on December 22. All students participated and were given the option to fundraise for this important event benefiting the American Heart Association. For more information please visit www.americanheart.org/jump or www.americanheart.org/hoops. Thank you to Mrs. Saunders for all of her hard work in organizing this event. In addition, KCS extends its appreciation to our parent volunteers for all their support during these events.

Our winter break began on December 21st with a 1 p.m. dismissal.

School News:

An Administrative Review of Kent's Child Nutrition Program by representatives of the Connecticut State Department of Education Office of Student Supports and Organizational Effectiveness Bureau of Health/Nutrition began on Tuesday, December 20 and extended to December 22. Among the topics being examined were: meal counting and claiming, certification and benefits issuance, nutritional quality and meal pattern-dietary specifications and nutritional analysis. Needless to say, this was an extensive review and I am happy to report that after many days and hours of intensive review, Kent Center School passed with "Flying Colors" (In the words of Fionnuala Brown, Educational Consultant in charge of the review.) Special recognition to Beth Menard, Kitchen staff, Barbara Lynch, and Rita Limbos for all their hard work in preparing for the review, answering questions posed by reviewers, and achieving positive results.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, January 7	Northern Regional Music Festival Auditions
January 16	Martin Luther King Day – no school
January 25	1.p.m. Dismissal – Professional Development for Teachers
January 26	Wellness Committee Meeting – 8 a.m.