



## Principal's Letter

Dear KJHS Families:

Thank you to everyone who came out to support the Unit 5 Music Boosters Spaghetti Supper at NCHS on November 3. The performances by the KJHS choruses, bands, and orchestras were superb. Thank you for all of your support for music in Unit 5.

KJHS is continually working to improve students' achievement in reading, particularly in their comprehension of content area textbooks. Our two reading strategies for the second quarter are REAP and Exclusion Brainstorming.

REAP is a strategy to help readers read and understand a text. REAP is an acronym for the following stages of reading: Read (Read on your own), Encode (Encode the text by putting the gist of what you read in your own words), Annotate (Annotate the text by writing down the main ideas and the author's message), and Ponder (Ponder what you read by thinking and talking with others in order to make personal connections, develop questions about the topic, and/or

connect this reading to other reading you have done).

Exclusion brainstorming is a strategy that teachers use to activate students' prior knowledge and to expand their understanding about a topic before reading. Teachers present students with a list of words, and students identify words on the list that they think relate to the topic as well as those that do not belong. As they talk about the words and try to decide which ones are related to the topic, students refine their knowledge of the topic, are introduced to some key vocabulary words, and set a purpose for reading. Then after reading, students review the list of words again and decide whether or not they chose the correct word.

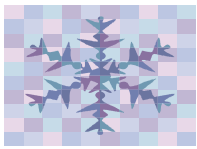
Students will practice these strategies in all of their classrooms as we work together to enhance the reading comprehension of all students.

As you are planning appointments for the second semester, please make note of the ISAT testing dates. This year the testing dates will be March 2-9, 2009. We will be testing each day from 8:35-11:05 a.m. Please try to schedule appointments at other times and be sure that your child is in

attendance and prepared to do the best job he/she can. Sixth and eighth graders will be tested in reading, math, and writing. Seventh grade students will be assessed in reading, math, and science.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lynette Mehall, Principal  
[mehallh@unit5.org](mailto:mehallh@unit5.org)



## Technical Difficulties with District Website

Recently, our district has had technical difficulties with the main website. We also have been unable to post the daily announcements and update teacher websites at KJHS. Sometimes teachers may not be able to post daily assignments or grades when there are difficulties with the network. Please be patient with us as we face these challenges!

## News from the Counseling Office

Hours: 7:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.  
(M-F)

At other times, please e-mail or leave a voice mail.

We now have over 1060 students for 2 counselors. Please continue to contact teachers directly for questions about class- related issues.

## Career Fair

All 8<sup>th</sup> graders attended a Career Fair at the Interstate Center on Wednesday, November 5. Students went to stations to ask questions and have experiences related to different careers. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders had completed the Career Cruising Interest Inventory before going to this fair. To see the results of this inventory, please ask your child to log in through the KJHS website.

## Registration for NCHS/NCWHS

On Wednesday, Dec 17, counselors from both high schools will be coming in the morning to speak to students about classes for high school. The students will be meeting with their future high school counselors from NCHS or NCWHS. Students will receive a course outline book at that time.

Mr. Dan Diambri, our counseling intern, has developed a site that will aid in the selection of classes. It is an interactive site that will allow students and parents/guardians to choose courses based on their grades and current course enrollment. This information has been posted on the Quick Links on the KJHS website for students to use. Students have the information on how to do this in their Career Expo Folders.

***Freshman orientation*** will be held at both high schools the first

week of January. NCWHS will hold their Freshman Orientation from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2009. NCHS will hold their Freshman Orientation on Thursday, January 8, 2009, from 6:30-9:00 p.m.

### **ISU Mentoring Program**

Some of our Kingsley 8<sup>th</sup> grade students have begun working with their mentors from ISU. They have had a great start. Each pair has met and worked on an interest inventory sheet to get better acquainted. They will now be meeting weekly to finish homework correctly.

In the spring we will be given a tour of ISU college buildings, student union, library, and a dorm room. They also will be providing lunch for us on that day.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the program, please call Mr. Penhollow at 888-6911.

### **Reminder about Information Changes**

Please notify Lori Schroeder of any changes in address or phone #s immediately. With the new School Reach program, it is vital that we have correct contact numbers at all times. Please also be sure to update your emergency contacts as necessary.

### **Yearbook News**

If students would like to reserve a 2008-2009 yearbook and did not pay and reserve their copies through registration, they can still order a yearbook. During the lunch periods the first week of December students may reserve their yearbook copies. Yearbooks are \$18.00. Students may reserve their yearbooks with cash or a check made payable to Kingsley Junior High School. This will be the last chance for students to reserve their yearbook copies for this year.



### **IMC News**

Thank you to all the parents, students, and faculty who helped make this year's Second Annual Family Reading Night, Reaching Out to Readers, a success. A special thank you goes out to the Girls' Ensemble, Pom Poms, Student Council Members and Writing Club for their performances and volunteer efforts. If you missed out on this year's Family Reading Night look for information in the fall for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Family Reading Night. If you would like to try out literacy games at home, go to [http://www.unit5.org/kjhs/imc/family\\_literacy\\_games.htm](http://www.unit5.org/kjhs/imc/family_literacy_games.htm).

Thank you to all the families and faculty for supporting the IMC Book

Fair. Profit from this year's fall event will help the IMC to select and purchase new books and other items. Mark your calendar for the Barnes & Noble Book Fair in March and the spring Scholastic Book Fair in April/May. Proceeds from these fairs will be used to purchase new materials during a time when the IMC has a limited budget for additional purchases. The profits will also help to support programs such as the Rebecca Caudill Book Award, Family Reading Night, Teen Tech Week, and National Library Week.

Ask your student if he/she is reading for the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award. Each junior high school student who has read 3 or more nominated titles can join with other junior high students statewide to award this year's winner. Those students reading 3, 6, 10, 15, or 20 titles will be entered in a special prize drawing. If they read 10 or more titles, they will earn an invitation to the Caudill Party here at KJHS.

## Team 6-1 News

### Language Arts

In our instruction, students are learning about reading strategies while we read in our literature books.

### Math

In math class, we will be covering the topics of number theory and fractions.

### Social Studies

In social studies, we will be covering Egypt.

### Science

In science we will be discussing matter and elements.

## Team 6-2

The Cyclone team is roaring through 1<sup>st</sup> semester! The following topics are in our path:

**Language Arts** - Literature Circles, nonfiction text, story elements, writing, and Wolf continues.

**Math** - Measurement, algebra

**Science** - Chemistry

**Social Studies** - Egypt, Ancient India

**ESL** - guided reading, novel study, word families, writing

Thanks to all who participated in the fundraiser. Also, please check your child's supply of pencils and paper.



**The Habaneros** - "Can't Get Any Hotter," is half way through a great year! We hope you all will have an enjoyable, healthy, and happy upcoming holiday season!

"If you give a mouse a cookie".....what will you get? In language arts the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be writing and illustrating some lovable Christmas stories. We will be reading another class novel and getting ready for the ISAT reading and writing tests coming up in March. The 7<sup>th</sup> graders will have to make a hard decision on what really happens to Jonas in the class novel, *The Giver*.

We will also be preparing for the ISAT in March.

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders are "rockin' and a rollin" in science. We finished up our unit on chemistry, rocks, plate tectonics, erosion and weathering. We finished the rock cycle and stone power points. We will also be working with science mapping and reading coordinates. The 7<sup>th</sup> graders will focus on specific organism groups and learn specific information about each group. This study will lead up to (drum roll please...) organism dissection. Fun, fun, fun!

Math is just as exciting as ever! In algebra, our good buddy, ol' pal Pythagoras will be hanging out and teaching us all about his wonderful theorem. No really it is just Mrs. Ernat in a wig, but we try to make math fun while solving theorems and inequalities. 8<sup>th</sup> grade math is diligently working on exponents and fractions. It is truly exponentially fun!  $X = a+14$ . 7<sup>th</sup> grade math has the challenge of working in the world of equations and inequalities. We will also be prepping for the ISAT coming up in March. Whew! That's a lot of math.

What else is there to say about the best class all day? Basketball, team sports, fitness day, roller skating in January...need we say more? PE is the best!

Marching to the beat of a different drummer will be what the 8<sup>th</sup> graders

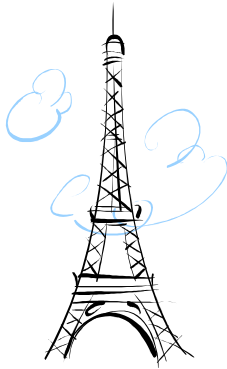
will be doing as they study the effects World War I had on the U.S. and the world. In January we have the dreaded ILLINOIS CONSTITUTION unit! Ahhhh!!! And the Roaring 20's will be the unit to follow - it is totally the "Bees Knees"! The 7<sup>th</sup> graders are also gearing up for a fight. They will be studying the American Revolution and finding out why Americans can be so troublesome and resilient! Then also in January the 7<sup>th</sup> grade will prepare to get ready to take the awful U.S. CONSTITUTION test!!! Noooooooooooooooooooo!

In ESL our students have realized that reading is FUN and not a chore! They are continuing to read for ESL Top Readers and turning in story maps every quarter. Our Top Readers for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter were Tanya Fuss and Daichi Fukuda. Congratulations to both of you!

We are in the unit on traditions and cultures in Beginning ESL. Students have been exposed to several reading excerpts that focused on family and culture. Students will be sweeping through the novel of *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*. We plan to jump into some holiday activities and come back refreshed to start preparing for ACCESS ELL in January.

This is a jolly month for our Advanced ESL students. They are starting the novel *The Best Christmas Pageant*. As our students return from all the jingles, they will start the novel

*Island of the Blue Dolphins*, and will get ready for ACCESS ELL.



## 7<sup>th</sup> grade

### French

We completed our family photo albums just before

Thanksgiving, so please ask to see these! We are in the midst of the

students' favorite lessons - food and drinks. We have learned a lot about what the French might eat and drink at a café. We are also finding out the prices of these items as well as how to order and pay for them. We will then be studying practical information such as time, the calendar and the weather. At the end of Unit 2 we will do a Café Project. Early in February we will begin a more intense study of vocabulary and grammar.

## 8<sup>th</sup> grade French

Ask your son or daughter to say your address in French or to give you directions somewhere using French. You would be quite impressed, I'm sure! In December we will be working on the verb "aller" (to go) so that we can say we are going to the places we have just learned. In January we will learn how to say that we are coming from places and how to say that we play sports, games and instruments. We will add to our previous family vocabulary and learn how to show possession.



## German Classes

7<sup>th</sup> grade German students have learned how to discuss their leisure time activities. They can express their likes and dislikes and say when they do various activities. They are able to ask for and express opinions. 7<sup>th</sup> graders are noticing many cognates among English and German vocabulary words. They have read an abridged fairy tale in German. Ask your student about Rumpelstilzchen!

8<sup>th</sup> grade German students have learned how to tell time. They have learned how to order food and beverages, discuss how things taste, and pay the bill in a German restaurant. They now can discuss their plans and wishes. They will soon be researching different cities in German-speaking countries.

Students in both levels now have the opportunity to have a German pen-pal. With a parent's permission, students can exchange letters with a young German student. With participation in LetterNET, a service of the German postal service, students receive a free quarterly subscription to a bilingual magazine. The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade German students are

enthusiastic and hard-working, and we are proud of them!



### German Club:

Our next club meeting will be on **Thursday, December 4**, from 4:00 - 5:15 p.m. in room 166. We will construct a gingerbread house and decorate gingerbread people. All seventh- and eighth-grade German students are welcome to join German Club.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish



We are wrapping up Unidad 1 Etapa 2 in which the focus is on clothing. Your

son/daughter should be able to describe people's personality and physical appearance, give others' likes and dislikes, as well as describe what people are wearing.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spanish

In Unidad 3 Etapa 2 students are learning to discuss sports, express their preferences, say what they know how to play, as well as make

comparisons. The next time you watch a game on TV, ask your son/daughter to tell you who won or lost the game in Spanish!



### Upcoming Events

- Dec. 1 4:30 p.m. Boys' basketball @ CJHS
- Dec. 2 4:30 p.m. Boys' basketball @ home vs. East Peoria
- Dec. 4 7:45 a.m. KJHS Core Team in IMC
- Dec. 5 7:15 a.m. Breakfast of Champions in KJHS Cafeteria
- Dec. 8 Dental Clinic - Stage 4:30 p.m. Boys' basketball @ home vs. Morton
- Dec. 9 4:30 p.m. Boys' basketball @ Champaign Jefferson
- Dec. 9 6:00-7:00 p.m. Fairview's Music Concert in Cafeteria
- Dec. 9 6:30 p.m. PTO Spending Committee in IMC
- Dec. 9 7:00 p.m. PTO Meeting in IMC

Dec. 10	4:30 p.m. Boys' basketball @ home vs. Tri-Valley	Jan. 8	5:45 p.m. 8 <sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: KJHS vs. CJHS @ Bloomington Jr. High
Dec. 15	4:30 p.m. Boys' basketball @ Urbana		
Dec. 15	7:00 p.m. KJHS Chorus Concert in Cafeteria	Jan. 8	6:30-9:00 p.m. Freshman Orientation @ NCHS
Dec. 16	7:00 p.m. KJHS Orchestra Concert in Cafeteria	Jan. 12	4:30 p.m. 7 <sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: BJHS vs. CJHS @ Kingsley
Dec. 17	5:30 p.m. Boys' basketball @ Chatham-Glenwood	Jan. 12	5:45 p.m. 7 <sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: KJHS vs. PJHS a@ Kingsley
Dec. 18	7:00 p.m. KJHS Band Concert in Neuman Gym	Jan. 12	5:45 p.m. 8 <sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: KJHS vs. PJHS @ Bloomington Jr. High
Dec. 19	3:45 p.m. Winter break begins		
Dec. 20	2:00 p.m. Boys' Basketball vs. Pontiac Shoot-Out @ IWU	Jan. 13	4:30 P.M. 7 <sup>TH</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: KJHS vs. BJHS @ Kingsley
Jan. 6	8:35 a.m. School resumes after winter break		
Jan. 7	7:00 -9:00 p.m. Freshman Orientation Program @ NCWHS	Jan. 13	4:30 p.m. 8 <sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: KJHS vs. BJHS @ Bloomington Jr. High
Jan. 8	4:30 p.m. 7 <sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: BJHS vs. PJHS @ Kingsley	Jan. 13	5:45 p.m. 7 <sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: CJHS vs. PJHS @ Kingsley
Jan. 8	5:45 p.m. 7 <sup>th</sup> grade boys' basketball intercity: KJHS vs. CJHS @ Kingsley	Jan. 13	6:30 p.m. PTO Spending Committee in IMC

7:00 p.m. PTO  
 Meeting in IMC  
 Jan. 15 4:30 p.m. Boys'  
 basketball @ Home  
 vs. Olympia  
 Jan. 19 No School! Martin  
 Luther King's  
 Birthday  
 Jan. 20 4:30 p.m. Boys'  
 basketball @ Home  
 vs. El Paso/Gridley  
 Jan. 22 4:30 p.m. Boys'  
 basketball @  
 Mahomet

**Grazie**

*Merci*

**Thanks!!! Gracias**

PTO wanted to thank all  
 the donators for the  
 September and October  
 teacher's lunches. The  
 teachers thoroughly  
 enjoyed all the goodies  
 that were sent in. Your  
 time and contributions to  
 recognize our hard  
 working staff are greatly  
 appreciated! ☺

Thanks, PTO

Julie Heinold

Julie Koh

Melinda Kosharek  
 Sue Olson  
 Mary Rich  
 Margaret Hall  
 Joely McCaw  
 Susan Sopek  
 MaryBeth Young  
 Dawn Young  
 Michele Wittman  
 Delilah Williams  
 Justine Wheeler  
 Dawn Wetzel  
 Teresa Watt  
 Brenda Watson  
 Mindy Vaughn  
 Linda Tuttle  
 Kathleen Trumball  
 Wendy Troxel  
 Beth Trela  
 Stacie Threlfall  
 Patricia Swartz  
 Erin Sullivan  
 Suniti Sud  
 Lori Steffes  
 Lynn Splittstoesser  
 Dawn Spenser  
 Tonya Southwood  
 Stacy Seibring  
 Joann Schmidt  
 Robin Schaefer  
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 Kate Rodriguez  
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 Cathy Redman  
 Amy Randazzo  
 Deb Pauken  
 Lisa Brinkman

