



## The Kentwood Post KPS Newsletter Quarter 1

**AEF Golf Tournament**

**No School Veteran's Day**

**KPEC Gameworks**

**Fall Festival**

**Thanksgiving Break**

**Classes resume**

**KPEC Bingo- Lower School**

**Winterfest Arts & Crafts**

**Friday, November 4**

**Friday, November 11**

**Thursday, November 17**

**Saturday, November 19**

**Monday, November 21–25**

**Monday, November 28**

**Friday, December 2**

**Friday, December 9**

### 1st Quarter Student Birthdays

Jed D. - August 29  
Dominic N. - August 30  
Jared G. - September 4  
Johnny P. - September 4  
Giles W. - September 4  
Vivian T. - September 5  
Paityn H. - September 9  
Amber G. - September 12  
Sean S. - September 16  
Aliyah S. - September 19  
Ryan W. - September 19  
Noah R. - September 23  
Jesse H. - September 30  
Jordan S. - September 30  
Sara H. - October 2  
Harrison O. - October 3  
Samantha R. - October 3  
Diego P. - October 6  
Phoenix O. - October 9  
Steven R. - October 9  
Max S. - October 10  
Alejandro C. - October 14  
Kevin G. - October 17  
Myco R. - October 17  
Brandon W. - October 18  
Jianna L. - October 20  
Kaitlin G. - October 21  
Ryan K. - October 23  
David P. - October 25  
Cameron B. - October 26  
Jacob B. - October 27



# Primary Learning Center



The 2011-2012 school year has finally begun! We have implemented a Primary Learning Center (PLC) this school year. Rooms 1 and B have been working together, incorporating grades 1, 2, and 3. Students in Room B are glad to be back to school. We had a wonderful turn out at Open House – thank you so much for joining us! The students have been working very hard in class and were able to enjoy their first off campus rewards trip at Tree Tops Park. Keep up all of the hard work, students! This is going to be an outstanding school year!

-Ms. Dillon, Mrs. Mentz, and Mrs. Greive





# Rooms 2 and 3



The school year has started off on the right foot. From painting a memorial in remembrance of 911, to learning about ecosystems, these students are well on their way to a successful school year. We look forward to what lies ahead. Congratulations to Gaby and Samantha for all their hard work and earning the scholarly and service spotlight awards this quarter. Great job girls!

-Ms. Nathan (Room 3)



Room 2 is learning map skills in social studies class. It has been great fun watching the airplanes flying east over the airport. In social skills class, we are practicing our "Run, Yell and Tell" strategy when in danger of a stranger. We did all this right here on campus.

-Ms. J

## Scholarly Spotlight

The Scholarly Student Spotlight goes to a student from each class who exceeds academic expectations. This student participates and shows consistent effort in all classes. Congratulations, students, on your academic achievement! Keep working hard!



Room 1  
Mackenzie L.



Room B  
Cara S.



Room 2  
Christian W.



Room 3  
Samantha O.



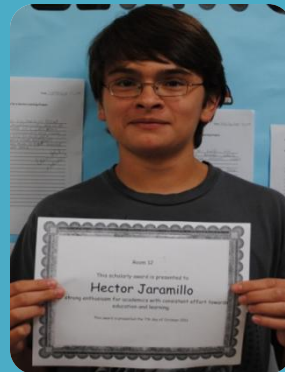
Room 10  
Daniel D.



Room 11  
Abel G.



Room 9  
Justin P.



Room 12  
Hector J.



Room 8  
Tessa L.



## Service Spotlight

The Student Service Spotlight goes to a student from each class who is a role model and someone who uses service as a form of leadership. Students are helpful to teachers, classmates, and staff members on a regular basis. We want to highlight these students for their excellent work ethic and positive attitudes!



Room 1  
Jacovia B.



Room B  
Rene B.



Room 2  
Ryan K.



Room 3  
Gabriella F.



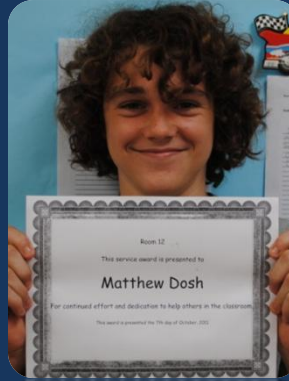
Room 10  
Victor P.



Room 11  
Sarah H.



Room 9  
Brandon S.



Room 12  
Matthew D.



Room 8  
Jordan S.

# Middle School Art & Dance



## Welcome to Room 9!

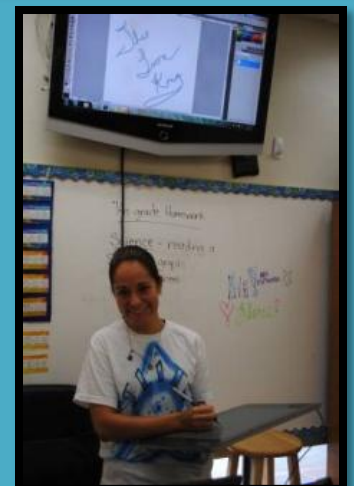
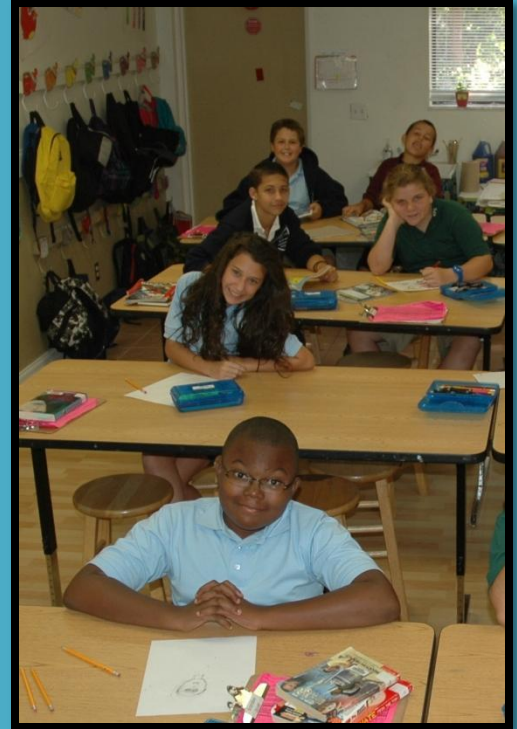
7<sup>th</sup> grade has been having a blast in the new and improved art room with Ms. Espinosa! It has been a wonderful start to the school year.

**Middle School Art:** I have been concentrating greatly on reviewing the Elements of Art and Design for the first quarter. From painting with our color schemes to Texturing (drawings with fabrics), we've even been showing digital drawing demonstrations on the Wacom Tablet.

**Middle School Dance:** We have started with easing into warm-ups and stretching, and slowly are learning how to isolate and move different parts of our bodies. Now we are starting to dabble in cultural dances from other countries.

**Dance Enrichment:** Dance enrichment is in full effect! Jumping right into learning exciting new dance moves and stretches, we have even started working on the dances for the play!

-Ms. Espinosa





# Middle School Social Studies



Welcome to the Social Skills and Social Studies Program!  
Here is a re-cap of our learning throughout the first quarter:

**Room 11-** We have been detectives trying to make sense of all these artifacts from the past. So far we have uncovered and are studying the hominids. We will be moving on to learn about the beginnings of ancient civilization.

**Room 9-** We have been studying Ancient China. The three Chinese philosophies of Daoism, Confucianism, and Legalism are very interesting and helped shape China's governments. We will soon learn more about the governments and civilizations of China.

**Room 12-** We have been studying our civics, citizenship, and how this great nation was started. The American Revolution is a very interesting period of history to read about. The British have angered their colonists to the point of no return and we are studying the events that played out. Learning about our government and rights so far has been very eye-opening.

**Room 10-** We have been studying our community. Learning about what makes a community and how we can help ours has been exciting. We are now studying the physical features of our earth. Our world has so much information and we will do our best to learn it all!

-Mr. Malka and Ms. Puia



# Middle School Classes



ROOM 11



ROOM 10



ROOM 8



ROOM 12



# Middle School Math

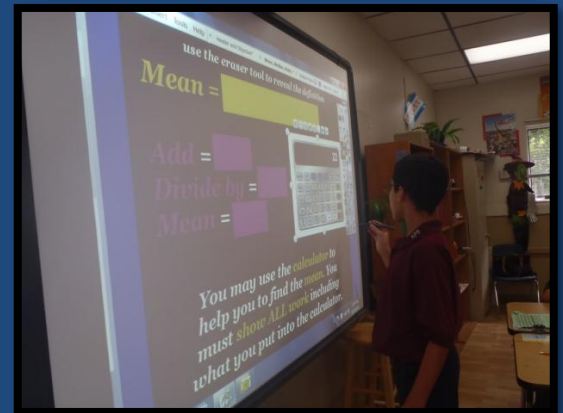
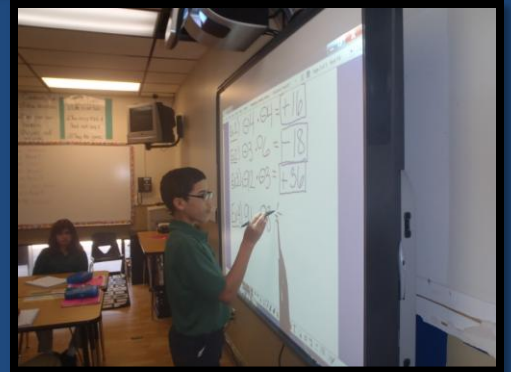
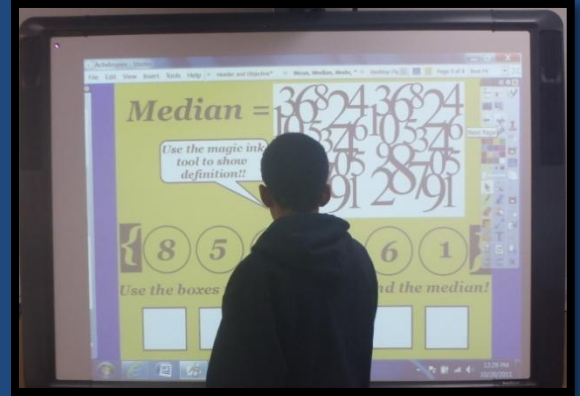
Room 11 – The sixth graders are currently conquering the demons of decimals! Accurately comparing, ordering, and adding and subtracting decimals is a daring task the class is mastering with determination and skill! Soon the students will use their ability to work with decimals and calculate the cost for a new class pet! Students will work in Math, English and IT to find resources to complete this project!

Room 9 – The seventh grade has come together as a class to perfect their mental math skills and use them to more easily manipulate integers. We are using the number line to guide us in adding and subtracting integers, as well as understand the meaning of absolute value. Together we will begin manipulating integer expressions with variables.

Room 12 – Multiplying and dividing decimals proved themselves to be a small mission for the eighth graders of Kentwood. These students are motivated and determined to strengthen their basic math operations in order to more easily take on algebraic expressions. The class is currently working on solving equations for a given variable by isolating the variable from the constants.

Room 8– The HI Math group is moving quickly through the beginning foundations of algebra. Starting with understanding written expressions and the value of using variables to solve real world problems, we are now manipulating sets of numbers and finding their mean, median, mode, range and outliers. Students in this class are also working to organize their work, calculate their own grades, and be able to work independently using the text, as we prepare them for high school expectations!

-Ms. Norelli and Mrs. Viswanathan



# Room 10



## Welcome to Room 10

Room 10 is well on their way to a successful year. We continue to strive towards excellence not only with academics but with behavior as well. Calendar math, money and basic skills of addition and subtraction are some of the standards we have covered so far and much more is to come.

-Mrs. Taber





# Middle School Science

## Welcome to the Middle School Science Program!

**Room 8:** We're off to a great start in science class this year! Students have enjoyed many hands on activities already to help them learn about speed, motion, and the scientific method. The students enjoyed participating in partner races to practice calculating average speed, and were even able to graph their results! Room 8 is looking forward to doing many other enjoyable activities to help them grasp scientific concepts throughout the year.

**Room 9:** We're wasting no time getting to work in science class this year! Students have practiced measuring the volume and mass of many objects using scientific tools. The students have even enjoyed practicing their art skills while drawing the steps of the water cycle. Room 9 has many more enjoyable hands on activities coming their way this year such as discovering the human body and creating models of the Earth's structures.

**Room 10:** Students have launched their way into an excellent start in science class. The students have used graduated cylinders to find the volume of shells, rocks, and many other objects! They have used their senses to identify physical and chemical properties of objects all around them. In the next couple of weeks they will begin to create chemical reactions! The fun has just begun for room 10 in science class this year.

**Room 11:** Room 11 has demonstrated that they are ready and willing to learn all about science this year! The students have many labs and experiments to look forward to participating in throughout the school year. In just a few short weeks the students have already practiced using and identifying several scientific tools while learning the steps of the scientific method. In the near future Room 11 will learn all about the states of matter and chemical changes!

**Room 12:** The students have begun to transform the science room into a great place to learn about motion, the solar system, and DNA. These students have already had races to enhance their learning of speed and motion! Within the next few weeks the students of room 12 will be building models of bridges to test how much force each bridge can withstand! These students have many more fun hands on activities coming their way in science class.

-Ms. Strachan

# Technology Department

The technology department at Kentwood Preparatory continues to expand as we have added two new Promethean boards. One of the boards is in the computer lab at the high school, and the second board has been placed in Room 8 of the lower school. Both our teachers and students are excited to have this valuable tool at their disposal. The high school students are well underway in the construction of their web sites and they are excited to see their efforts pay off. In web related news, Kentwood has joined the blog community; you can read about further technology updates at <http://kentwoodprepcommunity.com/blog/>

-Mr. Kohser

We have some aspiring web stars in our midst! To showcase the impressive progress of our High School students, the technology department is proud to announce our Webby Awards!

WebmasterAward: Danielle B.

Surprising Superstar Award: Abrielle R.

Most Improved Award: Damon B.



# Middle School Language Arts



Welcome to the Middle School Language Arts Program! Here is a summary of what we did during the first quarter:

**Room 11-** We have been reading several new stories and exploring the difference between myth and fairytale. We have read about several myths from around the world and compared them to several well known fairytales.

**Room 9-** We have been learning about all the parts that make up a good story as well as the different characters we might find within a story.

**Room 12-** We have been expanding our vocabulary by leaps and bounds. Also we are learning about symbolism while reading "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," which has been a very exciting experience so far.

-Mr. Marrero



# High School College Fair



## SUCCESS AT THE COLLEGE FAIR

By Danielle B.

The college fair was a huge success. Students received a lot of information about different colleges and universities and were able to have all their questions and concerns addressed. Students were able to speak with different admissions representatives from a large variety of colleges. It was very informative. There were colleges from a variety of places, such as Hong Kong and Rome. It was very exciting to see how many different colleges there were to choose from.





# High School Costume Party

## COSTUME PARTY SUCCESS

Our high school costume party was a fantastic success! Everyone had an amazing time dressing up, playing board games, listening to music, and hanging out with friends. Some of our favorite costumes were Danielle (as a zombie), Harrison (as Gir from *Invader Zim*), and everyone's favorite, Patricio (as Mr. T). The sandwich bar provided by KPEC was delicious! Everyone had a great time and we can't wait for our November social event!

- Ericka P.C.

(Photos by Amber G.)



# High School Journalism

## KENTWOOD PREPARATORY SCHOOL BY DOMINIC N.

I like to come to this school every day because there is always something going on. All the teachers in the high school are funny. When there is no school, I'm bored at home because there is nothing to do and the majority of my friends go to this school. The funniest teachers at this school are Mr. Sporkin, Ms. Bigos, Ms. Dougherty, Mr. Nelson, Ms. Hartman, and Ms. Knatz. My best friend at this school is Mr. Sporkin. He is very nice and is very funny all the time and he helps me out when I've done something wrong. Ms. Bigos, Mr. Sporkin, and myself are a great team. We always hang out at the lower school planting vegetables in the garden that we made last year. I like Kentwood because I get educated and have fun as well.

## Why the School Should have Pepperoni Pizza By Jonathan C.

Twice a week, Kentwood Preparatory School orders pizza for lunch. Every week it's the same thing though, cheese pizza. Some people need more of a variety. So I say, order pepperoni pizza! We live in a free country and I think we should have the right to have pepperoni pizza. People want more than just one option for school lunch. Pepperoni also provides a source of protein which the school is denying us by giving us cheese pizza. The students want what is best; let them be heard!

This is the pizza we have



This is the pizza we want





## **Interview with the Freshman Class Representative**

*By Elliot W.*

I interviewed Dominic Nostra, the freshman representative. We talked for a bit, and I asked his opinion about a few policies. He was great to be around, and I'd like to interview him again soon.

**Q. What are your plans for the school?**

**A. "I hope to make this place better for learning, and make it fun too."**

**Q. What plans do you have for the lunches?**

**A. "Representatives have a meeting every week about lunch, and we will see what we can do."**

**Q. What made you want to run?**

**A. "I wanted to run because I wanted to fix problems that I saw and help out everyone."**

**Q. Are there any new things that might be done later on this year?**

**A. "We have meetings every week. We might bring back the Fall Festival for teachers. The garden is going well so far."**

**Q. Speaking of the garden, what are your plans?**

**A. "This year the garden will grow a few things. We will grow lots of green beans and corn. I am also hoping that this year's thanksgiving will include food made from the garden."**

**Q. How do you feel about bullying?**

**A. "We all know who is bullying, and we know a lot about bullying. We think that the minute you tell a teacher about it, action should be taken."**

## **Kentwood's New Dress Code**

**By Brain N.**

Kentwood has changed the dress code this year. The lower school dress code used to be a blue shirt and khaki shorts. The high school dress code used to be a white shirt with khaki shorts. Kentwood has changed the shirts to all different colors. The colors are white, blue, light blue, burgundy and green. I think the shirts are comfortable this year! I took a survey on what color shirts students like the most. Students chose the color burgundy first and green second. All of the students said that all the shirts are comfortable. I am glad that the shirts are not all plain white. Kentwood has brought some color into the high school and lower school.



# Student Government Association

## A Great Year Ahead!

By Kaitlin G.

Hi, my name is Kaitlin G. I am a new member of the Kentwood family, and a senior. I am also the Secretary of Kentwood High School. I would like to thank all of the wonderful staff at Kentwood. Everyone is so enjoyable, especially Ms. Bigos. Before I came to Kentwood, I went to Western High School for 3 years and I definitely believe that coming to a new school was one of the best decisions I have made in a long time. The class sizes are small which makes the learning experience that much more enjoyable and personalized

After I graduate, I hope to go to college to earn a degree in Special Education. Kentwood is helping me pursue that career by helping me realize my full potential. I truly appreciate the attention and respect that I receive from each staff member and student at Kentwood.



## A LETTER FROM THE SGA PRESIDENT...

The SGA has been hard at work planning events and fundraisers. We have already accomplished two events that were very popular. We planned an event for the end of the first semester: "Spirit Week." We decided on five themes: twin day, nerd day, cosplay day, pajama day, and color wars. We have discussed some fundraising ideas and a special dinner night in the second semester. We cannot wait for our schemes to unfold!

-Leeland H.






## Kentwood Prep is Amazing

By Daniel G.

Kentwood Prep is a nice school to go to; trust me, your kid will enjoy it. The classes are good. On Fridays, it is always fun because you get dress down (you can wear anything you want, but it must be appropriate). It is also fun because sometimes we can get to go on field trips, have awesome food, and even have prizes if you behaved well as a student. When I was in my middle school years, we always had blue uniforms, but now you can wear dark red, green, light blue, or the old blue uniforms. Remember, this is the only way to get dress down. If you don't dress properly, then you cannot wear what you want on Friday. If your kids like acting, then every year we plan a funny school play for families. This is one of my favorite events to do, when I was in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, I played one of the main characters, Grandpa Joe, in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. They will always release the play before school ends. After school, there are enrichments. My favorite one is flag football, held each Wednesday. Now that I am in high school, it is more fun because we have a microwave to cook our food. We also have a snack bar. That is why this school is good for your children's education. You should consider bringing your kid here, so come on in!



# Buddy Walk



Under the direction of Mr. Trujillo, the eleventh grade English class and other interested students participated in the Broward Gold Coast Down Syndrome Organization Buddy Walk. The event was held on Sunday, October 23 at North Beach Park in Hollywood. The students walked with Mr. Trujillo down Hollywood Beach. Kentwood Preparatory High School was one of several area high schools taking part in the event. The students enjoyed lunch afterwards and all had a wonderful time while earning community service hours. A bake sale was held to raise funds for the race fees. Thank you to KPEC for their support and Mr. Trujillo for arranging a wonderful day for the high school students.

-Douglas M.

