

Kentwood Prep Newsletter  
<http://www.kentwoodprepcommunity.com/>  
09/01/06

Principal: Mrs. VanHeyzen  
Director: Mr. Fein

Picture Day: September 8<sup>th</sup>  
Open House: September 28<sup>th</sup>

A Note From the Principal: Mrs. Vanheyzen

Dear Parents,

Well, the 2006/2007 school year has begun and so have the hurricanes! I am pleased that Ernesto presented very little danger and hope that all the hurricanes turn out to be as uneventful as the first one. However, it does disrupt the students and makes the start of year difficult. We appreciate your support and co-operation during these times.

We have had 8 successful school days. Our testing is almost complete and students have been familiarized with the BIC (Behavior Intervention Chart) systems. Rewards and dress down days start next Friday. For those students who earn dress down, remember that there is a "dress down code". Refer to the student handbook if you are unfamiliar with the rules.

Reminders:

1. Parents and students must sign and return the Affirmation page in the Students' Handbook confirming that they have read and understand the rules of Kentwood. (This document must be handed in to your child's teacher.)
2. P. E. starts next week. Don't forget to bring your uniform!
3. Student pictures – September 8. Students may dress down appropriately for these pictures.
4. Open House - September 28

Media Center

Mr. Davidson, Ms. DeBeyer and Miss Sterbenz are continuing with assessing each student (grades 1-8) for the next few weeks, checking

for current levels of performance in the areas of math computation, problem solving, spelling, writing, reading, and interpreting graphs, maps and data. The assessment we are using is called the Brigance-Inventory of Basic Skills.

#### Room 1: Ms. Hubach

The first two weeks in room 1 were a success! We spent time getting to know our new friends and teachers, and we spent time familiarizing ourselves with the classroom and school campus. The students are now settling into their new routine nicely. We are getting warmed up for a great year!

#### Room 3: Ms. Urbancic

The Art Elective has begun. Each class created a unique giant classroom jigsaw puzzle. Each student was given a piece of a puzzle to design and color as they wanted. When they finished their piece they joined each other to work cooperatively to put the puzzle together. The puzzles are now going to be displayed on the classrooms' walls. This activity combined art, individuality, and social skills - sort of a Kentwood Salad Bowl.

#### Skills Class: Mr. Malka

Skills class has started in the right direction. The students have learned each other's names and are making friends fast. We are learning to organize ourselves as students and are learning proper school routines. We are walking in lines together and are learning to play together. We are enjoying our time as well as learning some structure during class activities such as handwriting and math. We look forward to continued progress and having many more achievements as students and individuals.

#### Room 8: Ms. Bigos

The first two weeks were exciting! The class took part in a variety of activities to get to know each other. We did interviews and presentations. The students really enjoyed these activities. Testing played a major part this week. Each student was eager to take the testing and put their best foot forward; it was a major success! The week ended with rewards which the students really enjoyed. They are looking forward to next week.

#### Room 10: Mr. Lieberman

Room 10 is starting the year in a positive way. We did some entertaining ice breakers to get to know each other in the class. Everyone is having fun meeting new friends. We went over school and class rules and procedures. The students wrote a paragraph and shared what they did on their summer vacation. Also, we spoke about the BIC system and how everyone can earn great rewards every Friday. Lastly we took several assessment tests, so we can place and address each student at the proper level.

#### Room 11: Mayer

Room 11 has started off the school year in a positive way. We spent the first week playing games to get to know each other and other students from other classes. We socialized with room 12 twice. We have taken the time to talk about BIC sheets and how they help us earn awesome rewards on Fridays. Assessments played a major part of this week. The assessments help us know where your student is at and how we can best work with him. They have been a major success as the students have tried their best. We are looking forward to another positive week next week. The students are looking forward to starting PE next week.

#### Room 12: Ms. Crawford

We're off to a great school year. The students have settled and are eager to dive into academics. I am pleased with their enthusiasm about another school year. The students have started writing their personal essays and are almost finished with our assessments tests. The students have molded as a group of incredible young men. We are all looking forward to the upcoming lessons.

#### Computer Lab: Mr. Kohser

Kentwood Prep is going to have a great year with technology. Students will start their computer classes on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>. The class will include typing with WORD, making POWERPOINT presentations, researching topics on the Internet, making spreadsheets with EXCEL, and many other computer tasks. With nearly 50 student computers on campus, that's a ratio of 2 students to every computer! Be sure to check the web site for other technology news.

#### Social Skills: Mrs. Flores

We are very excited to begin the social skills class in each room. We at Kentwood Prep believe it is important that our children have the proper social skills that will help them excel within social interactions and are necessary to them becoming successful adults. This year we are not only providing social skills within the classroom, but we also are providing an enrichment time during aftercare as a way to cover specific social skills issues and to offer further assistance to those students who might need it.