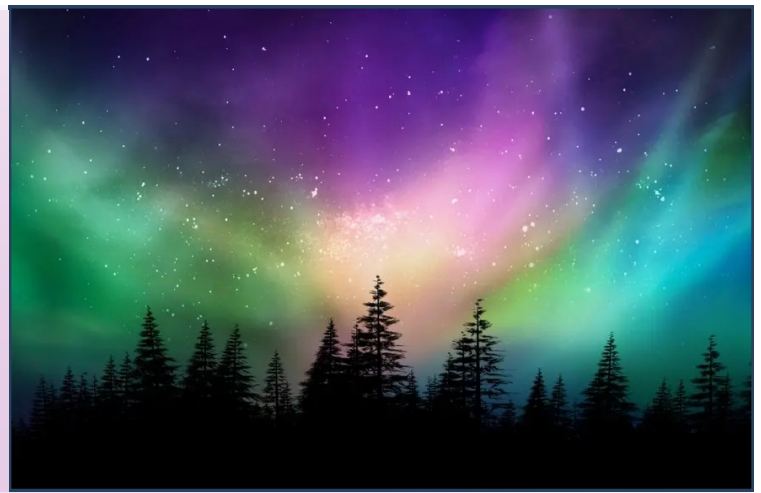


Knapp Elementary Newsletter



January 3, 2024

Mrs. Shannon Branch, Principal

From the Principal

Dear Knapp Families,

We hope that everyone had a wonderful winter break and a Happy New Year! We hope your students are well-rested and eager to return to our learning environment!

We understand that after extended breaks, it is important to revisit our building and classroom expectations of safe, respectful, and responsible behavior. Our staff take pride in explicitly teaching and revisiting expected behaviors. We look forward to recognizing students who go above and beyond with appropriate choices at our monthly Cardinal Crew meetings.

We are also making a proactive effort to meet individual student needs through the implementation of a school Re-Set Room. The Re-Set room provides students with a space where they can recognize and communicate how they are feeling in a safe, non-judgmental space. Students will gain insight into others' perspectives of their unexpected behaviors. Students can tap into strategies or tools that are calming and alerting. They include sensory supports, calming techniques, and thinking strategies. Students can have scheduled appointments to the Re-Set Room or use the Re-Set Room Pass. The Re-Set Room is not a punitive experience but rather can be used

for prevention to deescalate emotions or anxiety before one gets too overwhelmed. In this space, children can gain a sense of safety, quiet, and grounding to regulate their emotions and mood. The goal is to allow students to return to class sooner, ready to learn, and engage in relationships in a healthier way.

We are also excited to partner with the Dunn County Sheriff Department in supporting Knapp students. Our 5th graders will begin a 10 week DARE education program with Deputy Gates after winter break. It is a wonderful opportunity to connect with our community and address the risks that are currently facing our youth.

Lastly, we strive to keep you as informed as possible. SDMA residents will be asked to vote on a school referendum on February 20, 2024. Information about the [referendum](#) is posted on the school district website and Dr. Zydowsky, District Superintendent, will be hosting an informational meeting at Knapp Elementary School beginning at **5:30 pm** on Wednesday, January 24th. All parents, staff, and community members are welcome to attend. Please consider staying for our PTO meeting set to take place immediately following the referendum informational meeting.

Stay warm!

Mrs. Branch

Project SAM bags

If you would like to sign up for Project SAM bags at any time during the school year please contact Loretta Leable for a form to be sent home. Bags are delivered to students on Fridays and are available for **ALL** families.

Dunn County Resources

Please see the following links for Dunn County Resources for families:

[Resilient Co-Parenting](#)

[West CAP Energy Assistance](#)

[Wisconsin Family Connections](#)

virtual support groups

January Calendar

- 3 School Resumes
- 5 Popcorn Friday
- 24 Referendum Information & PTO Meeting 5:30 pm



Highlights



First graders are excited to receive free books from the Knapp PTO!



Author Kevin Lovegreen autographs items for students!



Student Council Community Service

Thank you to all the families that donated needed supplies for the Dunn County Humane Society!

Did you know that all the money raised from our Popcorn Fridays are donated at the end of the year to an organization in our community? AND it's only 25 cents!



PTO mtg. & Referendum

On **Wednesday, January 24** there will be an informational meeting about the upcoming February 20 referendum at 5:30 pm followed by our PTO meeting . Please join us!

Kevin Lovegreen author visit

We had an entertaining presentation by author Kevin Lovegreen on December 18. His book series (Lucky Luke) focuses on hunting, fishing, and spending time with family outdoors!



Looking ahead....

Parent Teacher Conferences are coming up February 6 & 8, expect to receive your conference notes January 12 - 15. There will be NO School on February 9 & 12.

Classrooms will celebrate the 100th day of school and the Spelling Bee for Grades 1-5 will take place in February.



Music Notes

with Mrs. McMahon
amy_groskreutz@msd.k12.wi.us



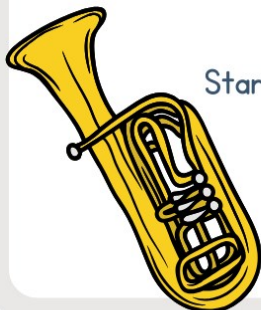
HOLIDAY CONCERTS

Thank you for all of your support at our concerts this year! We loved getting to learn about different holidays and spread some cheer to our friends and families!



COUNTRY OF THE MONTH

Starting in January, we will be learning about music from around the world. Our first country of the month is Germany!



Fun Fact: both the tuba and the accordion were invented in Germany!

