



PRAIRIE KNOLLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

225 Nesler Road, Elgin IL 60124 Phone: 847-717-8100 Fax: 847-717-8105

Principal: Dr. Matthew Haug

Assistant Principal: Mrs. Carrie Ahlstedt

Assistant Principal: Mr. Matt Newquist

February 2022 Falcon Flyer

Important Dates

February 7th-18th
**Stampede To Read
PTO Fundraiser**

February 14th
Valentine's Day

February 21st
**President's Day
No School**



**Digital Bulletin
Board**



**Congratulations 21-22 NCJC
Conference Champions!**

News Headlines

News from the Nurse



All 6th graders have a Dental Exam requirement due by **May 15th, 2022**. Dental exams need to have been completed between 11/15/20-5/15/22. You can find the Illinois State Dental Exam form on our website at <https://central301.net/health-services/health-requirements/>. Forms may be submitted any time via email, fax, or students may deliver them to the Nurse's office. Please email the nurse at lauren.sak@central301.net with any questions.

Daily Announcements

Morning announcements are read throughout the building in the morning to inform students of upcoming events, activities, sports highlights, and other items of importance. If you would like to know the happenings at PKMS, log into Skyward. Both parents and students have access to the message board when you log into Skyward.

Illinois 5Essentials Survey

The 5Essentials survey is a survey of the learning climate of schools serving grades 6-12 in the state of Illinois. Some of the useful feedback that we have received from students and staff have focused our efforts on professional development, improved collaboration efforts, and attention to social-emotional strategies. The window for this year's 5Essential survey in District #301 will be February 22-March 4, 2022. Watch for Dr. Haug's weekly Principal's Message for more information.



6th Grade Team News

Math - We are currently working on our Ratios & Proportional Relationships Unit. We are using real world examples to help create equivalent ratios. We will be using tape diagrams soon, which will be challenging for the students but a great tool to use when solving complex ratio word problems. **Ask your child to show you how to use a tape diagram for this example: If there are 676 students at a basketball game and the ratio of home team fans to away team fans is 9:4, how many home team fans are there? **



Science - Journeying into our solar system and beyond, students are about to embark on an adventure to collect data about our planets, the Sun, and the Kuiper Belt. On this adventure, students will explore the distance between planets and the relative size of each in relation to the distance. As we continue our journey through space, we will explore asteroids, meteors, and comets, along with presenting research on other topics from our galaxy, such as black holes and dark energy/matter. Towards the end of the month, students will start to dive into the world of weather and water.

Social Studies – We have been studying the impact of the Republic, Julius Caesar and Augustus. The Roman government is going to forge ahead and now enter into the era of an Empire! Study of different emperors and the Fall of Rome is on the horizon! We will be looking into the economic and religious shifts that will be happening as barbarians make their mark and life in Europe declines.



ELA - Where does Mario do his shopping? *Mario Mart!* Normally, playing Mario Brothers in class would be a big no no, but in February, kids will get to have a little fun! In an effort to gamify our next mini “unit,” students will be competing against other classes to show their knowledge of argument terminology and writing. Hopefully, the Mario Brothers and pals can help encourage students to continue the 3rd quarter positively and really grasp those argument terms!

7th Grade Team News

ELA: We are in the midst of our Responsibility Unit, and students are currently working on an explanatory speech about a person or company (past or present) who has shown social responsibility. They've conducted their research, written their speeches, and created visual aids. These speeches will be delivered the first week of February. After speeches wrap up, we'll be taking a look at the literary format of drama and discussing the differences and similarities between texts written as plays and texts written in the prose format. This will end our responsibility unit, and our next unit focuses on freedom. As part of that unit, students will read a short biography book about someone who fought for freedom.

SS: In Social Studies, students are deep into their study of the US Constitution. Along the way, students are learning the basics of how our government functions, why it is set up that way, as well as what their role in it is. We will also be using our knowledge of the Constitution to analyze issues in our modern society. Students will take five quizzes before the final test on March 18 (more information on this day will be coming!). Students should be studying daily - please remember to use the Constitution Reference Page (located on the Week at a Glance) for study tools, handouts, quiz dates, etc.



Science: Virus Day was a HUGE success! Students were able to track down the PKBola Virus's patient zero by contact tracing all of the teachers at PKMS. It was a great day and a great way to wrap up our virus unit. We are currently deep into our ecology unit. We have been investigating the interactions of living, as well as, nonliving things in every environment. We will be concluding this unit in a couple of weeks by researching a real-world issue facing the Earth's biomes today. Students will develop a plan to address the issue environmentally, socially, and financially. Students will present their solutions in a shark tank format to their teacher/class. It promises to be an exciting cumulative event.

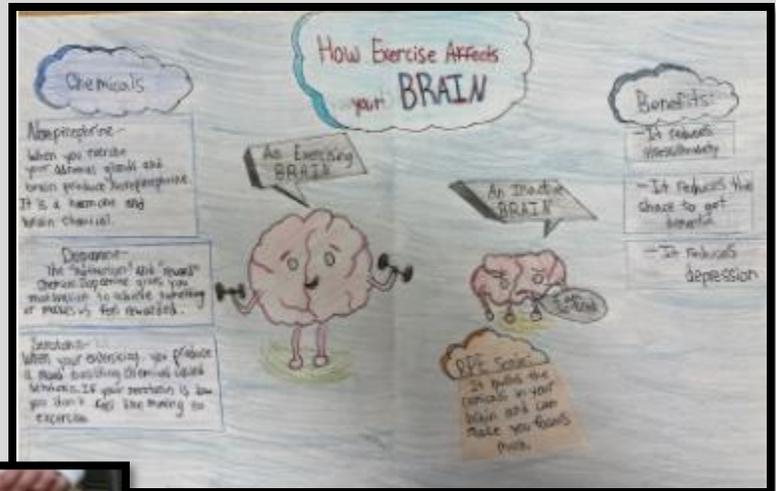
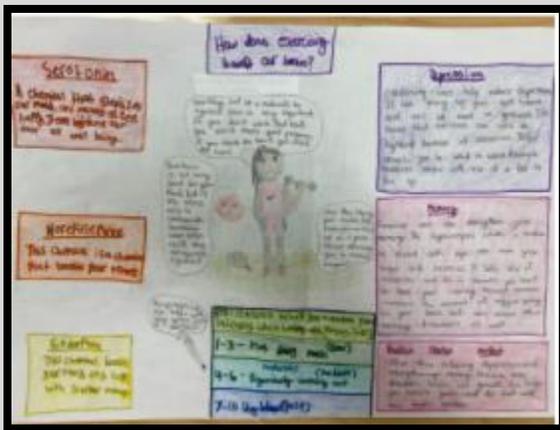
Math 7: We are moving on into our Ratios and Proportions unit! Some students are still wrapping up their Unit 3 Assessments and we are hoping to have that done soon. In ratios and proportions, students will spend time setting up and solving proportions using a multitude of methods. This unit will then go directly into our Percents unit where students will learn how to calculate tax, tip, discount and simple interest.

Compacted Math: Students will continue into our second functions unit! This is a unit that takes linear equations and puts them into real life. We will be analyzing movement graphs, as well as analyzing graphs to determine rates of change in a certain situation. Students will continue to have 1-2 larger quizzes, and 1 test per unit. In addition, we will continue to give mini quizzes to do quick assessments of understanding.

Encore Team News

The students have been working very hard in health during the 3rd quarter. So far, the students have learned communication skills like expressing feelings and thoughts in a positive way by using an I-message. They have also discovered the DECIDE (decision making) Model when having a tough choice to make. The students have shown many examples through role-play and projects of how to utilize these important life skills. "I learned that these skills will help me with making good decisions in my life." Niko Pahigianis

We are now in the middle of our body systems unit, where the 7th grade students are learning the functions and major organs of five of the systems. Specifically, students showed how exercise affects the brain in the nervous system in a beneficial way. Students created posters to explain these benefits and how "feel good" chemicals get released after exercising at a moderate to vigorous level. "I like how I get to incorporate the learning targets of the body systems into a poster project. I feel like the students get to express their artistic abilities and learn new information at the same time." Mrs. Peterson.



In sixth grade, the students organized the body system parts and functions using a hexagonal strategy. Using this strategy helped the students visually see the connections between the body systems and how they work together.

News from Athletics

Wrestling - The conference season was a success on and off the mats. Thank you to all our student athletes and our wrestling coaches, Mr. O'Donnell, Mr. Mariano and Mr. Titock for all the hard work. The month of February and beginning of March will consist of non-conference matches leading up to the IESA State Tournament. For more information visit www.iesa.org. Good luck Wrestlers!

Girls' Basketball is off to a fast start! The girls have their conference tournament to look forward to the first weekend of March. Rochelle is hosting the tournament this year on Thursday, March 3rd and Saturday, March 5th. We wish them the best for the remainder of the season!

The **PKMS Scholastic Bowl** has officially begun their season! They are currently practicing each week. Their first scheduled home match will take place in February. All home matches will be held at CMS this year. They have their conference meet to look forward to on Saturday, March 5th. Best of luck as they begin their competitions!

Boys' & Girls' Track and Field

Our last sport of the year is **Boys' and Girls' Track and Field** which begins on Monday, March 14th. All 7th and 8th graders who are interested in joining the track team should attend the student track meeting that will take place in late-February during lunch. To join the team, students must register on 8to18 and have an up-to-date physical (within one year) on file at PKMS. We hope to see you there!

Below are the general requirements needed to participate in Athletics:

- Physical (within one year)
- Fee (*\$100.00 due before the first competition*)

***Any student who has not signed up on 8to18 or turned in a physical will not be allowed to practice!**

Don't forget to attend the informational meeting at lunch. More information will be given regarding tryouts and what to expect this season.



February 1-28, 2022

FEBRUARY 2022

Central Middle School, Prairie Knolls Middle School
Lunch Menu

Prices \$0.40 Milk
\$3.75 Adult / Teacher Lunch

Monday



Pancakes with Sausage
with Syrup **7**

Fruit Yogurt
Hash Brown Pattie
Gold Rush Fruit Juice
Cinnamon Applesauce

Choice of Milk

Chicken Nuggets (5) **14**

Mashed Potato w/gravy
Mixed Vegetables
Peach Cup



Choice of Milk

21
Presidents' Day
Holiday
No School

Cheese Quesadilla **28**

Fiesta Black Beans
Rainbow Pepper Tray
Cinnamon Applesauce

Choice of Milk

Tuesday

Breaded Chicken
Patty on Bun **1**
(Regular or Spicy)

Carroteenies w/dip
Green Beans
Peach Cup

Choice of Milk

Chicken Tenders (3) **8**

Crispy Tator Tots
Seasoned Corn
Mixed Fruit Cup

Choice of Milk

Hamburger on a Bun **15**

Baked Vegetarian Beans
Broccoli Florets w/dip
Orange Wedges

Choice of Milk

Bosco Cheese Sticks (2) **22**
w/Marinara Sauce

Peas & Carrots
Celery Sticks w/dip
Applesauce

Choice of Milk

Wednesday

Deli Sliced Turkey &
Cheese Sub Sandwich **2**
with bag of chips

Broccoli w/dip
Seasoned Corn
Fresh Apple

Choice of Milk

Beef Hot Dog
On Bun **9**

Baked Vegetarian Beans
Carroteenies w/dip
Peach Cup

Choice of Milk

Cheese Pizza **16**

Green Beans
Celery Sticks w/dip
Frozen Fruit Slushie

Choice of Milk

Soft Shell Taco
w/Spanish Rice **23**

Refried Beans
Carroteenies w/dip
Mixed Fruit Cup

Choice of Milk

Thursday

Cheese Pizza **3**

Fresh Garden Salad
with Cherry Tomatoes with Dressing
Peas & Carrots
Orange Wedges

Choice of Milk

Cheese Pizza **10**

Fresh Garden Salad
with Cherry Tomatoes
with Dressing
Tender Peas
Chilled Pear Cup

Choice of Milk

Italian Meatsauce
Over Pasta **17**

Carroteenies w/dip
Tender Peas
Apple Slices

Choice of Milk

Cheese Pizza **24**

Garden Fresh Salad
w/Cherry Tomatoes w/Dressing
Green Beans
Orange Wedges

Choice of Milk

Friday

Bean & Cheese Burrito
w/Spanish Rice **4**

Celery Sticks w/dip
Green Beans
Chilled Pears

Choice of Milk

Hot Ham & Cheese
Sandwich **11**

Celery Sticks w/dip
Green beans
Apple Slices

Choice of Milk

Corn Dog **18**

Oven Brown French Fries
Broccoli Florets w/dip
Mixed Fruit Cup

Choice of Milk

Chicken n' Waffles
With Syrup **25**

Celery Sticks w/dip
Seasoned Corn
Chilled Peach Cup

Choice of Milk



Choice Of Milk: 1% Low-Fat Unflavored
Fat Free Chocolate

Sun Butter & Jelly Sandwich Offered
Daily

Menu Subject to Change without Notice



PAY FOR MEALS ONLINE
MySchoolBucks.com