



KENNEDY MATTERS

Calendar Notes

- January 5**—ACES Tutoring—SAT Prep—Room 214
- January 6**— After School Tutoring—room 207
- January 7**- ACES Tutoring—SAT Prep—Room 214—2:30-4:00
- January 7**—NJROTC Rifle Team practice—Dance Studio— 2:40-5:00
- January 8**— Winter Play—7:00 p.m.—Auditorium
- January 9**—Winter Play—7:00 p.m.—Auditorium
- January 10**— Winter Play—2:00 p.m.—Auditorium
- January 12**—ACES Tutoring—SAT Prep—Room 214—2:30-4:00
- January 13**— Dance Showcase— 7:00-9:00—Auditorium
- January 14**—ACES Tutoring—SAT Prep—Room 214—2:30-4:00
- January 14**—NJROTC Rifle Team practice—Dance Studio— 2:40-5:00
- January 15—January 21**—Semester Exams
- January 18**—Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday—No school for students and teachers—Offices are closed
- January 19**— ACES Tutoring—SAT Prep—Room 214—2:30-4:00
- January 19**— PTSA Meeting— 7:00-9:00 p.m.—Media Center
- January 22**—INOVA Blood Drive—Auditorium, Stage, and Lobby
- January 23**— SAT Testing
- January 26**— ACES Tutoring—SAT Prep—Room 214—2:30-4:00
- January 27**- After School Tutoring—Room 207
- January 28**—ACES Tutoring—SAT Prep—Room 214—2:30-4:00
- January 28**—NJROTC Rifle Team practice—Dance Studio— 2:40-5:00
- January 29**— World Percussion Assembly—8:00-11:15—Auditorium
- January 30**— Family Market—9:00 a.m.—Cafeteria

Updates and News



From the Principal

Happy 2016! On behalf of our staff, may this New Year bring you and your family good health, happiness, prosperity and togetherness. The window for semester exams opens for all students this month. Exam review day is Thursday, January 14, 2016. Our bell schedule will be adjusted to accommodate activities and exams, Friday, January 15, 2016, through Friday, January 22, 2016. The adjusted bell schedule information was sent home with students on Tuesday, January 5, 2016. This information will also be emailed to you, posted on our school web site and on the PTSA list serve. The second marking period/first semester ends for students Friday, January 22, 2016. Monday, January 18, 2016, is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, schools and offices are closed. Monday, January 25, 2016, is a professional grading day for teachers, and there is no school for students. The third marking period/second semester begins Tuesday, January 26, 2016. Report cards for the second marking period will be sent home with students Wednesday, February 3, 2016. Best wishes for an outstanding new year! Joe L. Rubens, Principal

Social Studies

Kennedy Debaters are going strong! Each pair won at least one of their December debates. Congratulations to Marshal Ngwenya & Mohammed Alghaffari, Maya Bickel & Jennifer Castillo-Burgos, and Ramon Miranda who debated solo.

This month witnessed the induction of 12 charter members of the Rho Kappa National Social Studies Honor Society as well as the establishment of a chapter of Amnesty International here at Kennedy High School.

AP NSL Lunch Study Sessions and Tutoring are taking place every Wednesday during lunch in room 210.

Science

Congratulations to Ms. Marchwicki and our Medical Careers students for a fabulous presentation at the First Annual Career Readiness Night at Gaithersburg HS. The students presented information to the community about the Health Careers Pathway programs. Thank you for a job well done!

World Languages

Italian 2 students are working on describing a celebrity's outfit using Italian vocabulary about fabrics, colors, and patterns. *Spanish 2* students are presenting their daily routines using reflexive verbs. *Spanish 3* students are learning about healthy-living habits, and will recommend solutions for health problems. *IB Spanish 5/6* students are reading, analyzing, and comparing articles about how privacy and technology are changing the face of the entertainment industry. In the *Spanish for Spanish Speakers 1* class, students are studying sociology and anthropology.

ESOL

All ESOL students will be taking several important exams in January and February. Students take a listening, reading, writing and speaking semester exam. Then starting January 20th, we will begin WIDA/ ACCESS testing. This is a state mandated test which tests your child's academic language in language arts, math, science and social studies. It takes 3-4 days. This test is important in determining which level of ESOL your child will be placed in for 2016-2017. Please discuss good study habits with your child, like going to sleep by 9PM and eating breakfast on the day of a test.



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Updates and News

Math

Congratulations to Dr. David Ley and Ms. Susha Swamy for implementing 21st Century Teaching Strategies that inspired 90% of their Honors Algebra 2 students to earn a "C" or higher during the first marking period. Great teachers and great students—that's the JFK way!

Special Education

Students in our School Community Based program filled goodie bags for The Angel Tree Project, a national organization in Merrifield, Va. which provides gifts and presents for children on behalf of their parents who are incarcerated.

Linda Jasper, Assistant Principal at Newport Mill Middle School, recently visited the CJ Cafe¹ for breakfast and to see former Newport staff and students. Ms. Jasper was so impressed by the CJ Café program that she donated a Belgian waffle maker to CJ, saying she "just liked what she saw."

Students participating in the CJ Café program will have a demonstration on a variety of culinary skills and preparation of bruschetta given by Ben Wischmann, a professional chef in the Howard County Community College Culinary Program.

Ninth Grade Team

The Destination Graduation team is proud to announce that approximately 310 ninth grade students participated in the eligibility ice cream sundae social that took place on December 10th and December 11th during 8th period. In an effort to get even more students over the 2.0 GPA hump,

in-school tutoring is being offered through the National Honor Society and the Student Ambassador Program. If you are interested in signing your child up for lunch time tutoring, please contact Mrs. Teixeira or Mrs. Kochuba for more details. Please note, new instruction will end on January 14, 2016. Continue to check Edline and contact the school if you need to schedule a parent-teacher conference. Thanks and Happy New Year!

Media Center

The Media Center is seeing an average of 450 students pass through our doors each week, in addition to a full schedule of classes, and continuing to build our digital presence as well. If you have not gotten a chance to look at our new non-fiction e-books please do, there are some excellent resources that are super searchable, include audio, and pre-formatted citations. You can now click on a link and access the Gale Virtual Reference Library directly from your Destiny search results for even easier access. Lastly, our Young Adult Book Club is reading *The Raft* by S.A. Bodeen, Classics Book Club is reading *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen, and Staff Book Club is reading *The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins. I encourage everyone to read along with us!

English

The English department would like to congratulate the following students for receiving the department's Student of the Month award:

9th grade Harold Oceda
 10th grade Maiara Alves Firmino
 11th grade Andrea Calix-Mejia
 12th grade Ruby Tamrakar

