Kennedy-Longfellow School

Thank you to CityYear, Optum and the Boston Celtics!!

Last month our school was packed with volunteers and VIPs! As a follow-up project for last year's gym renovation, we had over 100 volunteers in the building including Celtics players Kris Humpries, Marshon Brooks, Jeff Green, Brandon Bass and Kelly Olynyk!

Last spring, CityYear scoped out spots in the school that needed a pick-me-up. They designed mural panels and provided all the supplies for the volunteers to paint them. Optum Health Technologies had volunteers from all over the state (and Connecticut).

In addition, the Celtics management, former player Dana Barros, team cheerleaders and "Lucky" the mascot kicked off the day with an uplifting assembly for the kids.

It was a great day and we got so much out of it!! Thank you to all involved.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

- Nov. 11th: NO SCHOOL – Veteran's Day
- Nov. 13th: Grade 3-5 Awards Ceremony (details TBA)
- Nov. 14th: "Let's Cook & Move!" 6-7:30pm
- Nov. 20th: School Council meeting - 4-5:30pm.
- Nov.20th: Math Workshop for parents 5:30-7pm.
- Nov. 21st: Parent Coffee 7:30-8:30am.
- Nov. 26th: Kindergarten Family Breakfast (details TBA)
- Nov. 27th: TURKEY TROT & Early Release Day.

RECLAIM YOUR STUFF!!!!

Please ask your child(ren) to check in our LOST & FOUND for hoodies, jackets, hats, etc. The bins are in the hallway between the auditorium and cafeteria. It is very early in the cold weather season and the boxes are overflowing! Many items look brand new.

At the end of this month I will be donating jackets to Coats for Kids and other items to Got Books. You paid good money for your stuff….don't let me give it away!!!

****

Extra! Extra! The K-Lo Express is here!!

Kennedy-Longfellow students are publishing a monthly paper! Last spring, a few 4th graders started chatting about starting a newspaper. This year the now 5th graders turned their idea into reality! The students assigned themselves roles and agreed on a frequency and format. We have reporters, photographers, cartoonists, and even an advice columnist and a food critic.

Each month, our reporters will cover events in the school (the K-104 Lemonade Stand, the Turkey Trot, etc.). In addition, there will be monthly installments from our English Language Arts (ELA) writer and our Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) writers. Our ELA contributor introduces a new writing genre each month, and offers challenges to students in each grade. Our STEM writers suggest educational apps, science experiments, and math challenges. The coolest part about the K-Lo Express is that grown-ups involved are mere consultants. The student team makes all editorial, content, and design decisions.

Keep an eye out for next month's edition!

Notes from CitySprouts

It has been a spectacularly colorful fall around the Kennedy-Longfellow School and in the garden this year. It's been a busy fall too! Kindergarten classes have been testing out their five senses and hunting for all sorts of colors in the garden. Other students have been studying soil and compost. 4th graders are drawing maps of the garden. And kindergarten, 2nd grade, and 5th grade classes got to wash, cut, mash, and press apples into fresh apple cider a few weeks ago!

As the growing season is coming to an end, Brad and Jane will start pulling the annual plants out and preparing the garden beds for winter. With the help of students we will be planting winter wheat and garlic, both of which act as a cover crop to protect the soil from erosion during the cold and windy winter months. While we will likely pull the winter wheat out come spring, the garlic will actually stay in until we harvest it in June and July. A crop that actually grows throughout the winter and underneath all of that snow - now that's a hardy food! Jane will also be constructing a hoop house, or mini green house, on a couple of the garden beds to extend the growing season for some leafy green vegetables!

November, 2013

Let's Cook & Move

Join us Thursday, Nov. 14th for a fun parent and child activity at K-Lo! Parents and Children will prepare "rainbow bites", enjoy a healthy dinner together, and have fun with movement led by the Phys. Ed. Department. Be sure to wear comfortable clothes.

The event is for students in grades K-3 and runs from 6-7:30pm. It is limited to 20 families so please RSVP by Nov. 8th. Call 617.349.6492 or email **dbonilla@cpsd.us**.

This event is sponsored by Title 1, Health & Physical Ed. Department, CPS School Health Programs, Pathways to Family Success and the Cambridge Public Health Department.

PICTURE RETAKES

Eyes closed? Funny face? You can have your child's school picture retaken on Dec. 6th. We have a limited number of order forms, so if you would like one please call the K-Lo main office (617.349.6841) and we will send one home with your child.

FYI:

This month there are 2 great opportunities to learn about curricula. On Nov. 20th we will have a Parent Coffee with our English Language Arts Coach. She will talk about how kids are learning reading and writing. On Nov. 21st we will have an evening math workshop with childcare and pizza! Watch out for details.

****

Sister to Sister: Community Conversations

Are you a woman of color interested in talking to other women about issues of health? Do you have health questions that you'd like to have answered by a female health care expert that looks like you?

If so, please join the conversation! Here is the info for this month:

Sickle Cell: What's New in Treatment and Care

Sunday, 11/10
2pm - 4pm
Simply Erinn's (268 Brookline St, Cambridge)

We will explore:

- *Basic Definitions: What is sickle cell? Why does it happen?*
- *Common Symptoms/Experiences*
- *Standard and Evolving Treatment Options*

Strategies for Minimizing Risks & Maximizing QOL

Technology at KLO

Keyboarding Tools

Dance Mat Typing: 1st-5th Grades:

- **www.bbc.co.uk/schools/typing/**

Cambridge Typing Club: 3rd-5th Grades:

- **www. cambridge.typingclub.com**

Tech in Action

Calling All Clean Recyclables!
The computer lab is now accepting recyclables to support hands on programming and engineering projects. Please feel free to drop off, or have your child drop off, any of the following:

- **Cardboard paper towel tubes**
- **Shoeboxes (or smaller boxes)**
- **Cereal boxes**
- **Egg cartons**
- **Wine corks**
- **Rubber bands**
- **Rinsed soda or water bottles**

Thank you!

App Alert

ABC Magnetland [$1.99]:
Students in kindergarten have been using ABC Magnetland. This app allows students to explore upper case and lower case letters, numbers, symbols, shapes, animals, and food. The names of all the magnets are read aloud when touched, allowing students practice letter recognition.

KLO Teachers Share Their Work

Ms. Cocuzzo at Literacy For All

2013-14 marks another year of teachers presenting technology initiatives and representing KLO at local and national conferences. Susan Moynihan (KLO Library Media Specialist) and Sue Cusack (Lesley Partnership) presented "Check it Out, Digital Inclusion!" at the MassCUE 2013 Technology Conference in October. This presentation highlighted the very popular Raspberry Pi program at KLO. Students can check out these tiny, but powerful computers from the library to use at home and access a host of educational software and web-based resources. Jessica Cocuzzo (2nd grade), Karyn Grace (Inclusion Specialist), Bonnie Steyer (ESL Teacher) and Sue Cusack presented "Using iPads to Capture Authentic Assessments" at the Lesley University Literacy for All Conference in early November. The session included the use of video, eBooks, digital flash cards, and Google forms to document and record individual student progress and create digital portfolios.

A Pumpkin Patch Comes to LIfe

Just like the local TV weather person, students at KLO can now be superimposed over images or video. How does it work? The KLO computer lab is now equipped with a green screen backdrop. Students stand in front of this plain green backdrop and are videotaped. The video is then pulled into iMovie and with a push of a button they are superimposed on any photograph or video that you drop in. Ms. Patterson's K108 class took advantage of this technology by bringing the poem "Ten Little Pumpkins" to life. Students memorized the poem and created pumpkin masks. Ms. Walsh then videotaped them reciting the poem in front of the green screen and superimposed them on their pumpkin patch field trip photos. Now the class can practice counting as they watch themselves star in the "Ten Little Pumpkins" movie.

The green screen in action.

A scene from the movie.