



Communications Classroom Newsletter

[Kennedy Communications Website](#)

January and February 2023 Edition

Teachers Corner

Hello families! This edition of our newsletter will recap both January and February. It has been a busy past two months, and all of the students have worked so hard for a well deserved February Vacation! This past week has been particularly busy with pep rallies, Connections Club, and community outings. Students did a fabulous job participating in the the various fun-filled events!

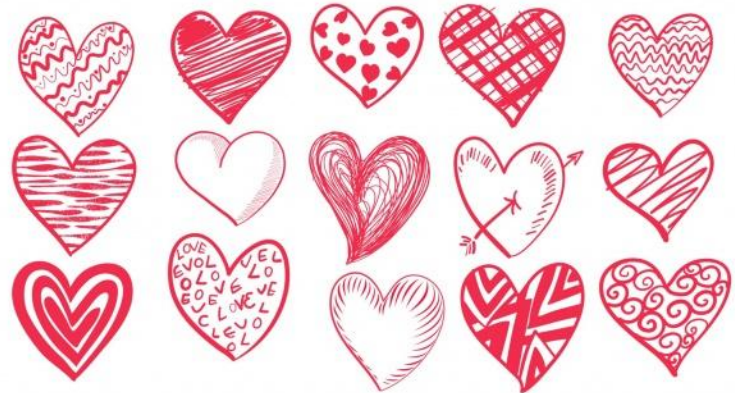
March is approaching, and that means that Unified Basketball will begin again! Please see the Unified Basketball Section of the newsletter for specific information regarding this years season.

A few important reminders to read below! Please remember to check your child's period by period log or written home log for important notes/ announcements. We will also include notes if students' materials need to be replenished (i.e toothpaste, toothbrush).

Additionally, If your child is going to be late to school (after 7:50), or if you will be picking your child up late (after 2:15) please report to the front office as opposed to the parent pick up at the back of the school.

Lastly, we have added a new and exciting portion to morning meeting: **Question of the Day!** Please see the section later in the newsletter to find out what Question of the day is all about!

We hope you all have a safe, relaxing, and fun February Break! -Ms. Stevens and Ms. Magill



Save the dates!

February 20th-24th - February Vacation!

February 28th - Connections Club

March 6th - Faculty Meeting - No after school clubs

March 15th - Early Release Day

April 7th - No School - Good Friday

April 12th - Early Release Day

April 17th-21st - April Vacation

Please see the Unified Basketball Section for tentative dates and times for practices and games. We will inform you if dates/times do change.

KMS is holding Decades day spirit days here i the link to are the dates: [Decades Day Spirit Days!](#)



Resources to use at home

★ [Raz Kids](#)



Students can access Raz Kids through either the web-based version or through an app on an iPad. If you'd like your child to start bringing home their Chromebooks so you have that extra device at home, please let us know and we'll make sure to remind them to pack it at dismissal time. It's very important that the Chromebook is brought back to school everyday because they are used throughout the school day as well. Follow this link: [Kids Login for Reading A to Z](#). The teacher username is: amagill2. From there, your child can find their name and then type in the password: 1234.

★ [IXL](#)



We're using IXL to support our curriculum this year, and your child has access to this online program at home. With thousands of skills that match what we're learning, as well as insights into student progress, IXL is a great resource to help your child excel. Please email us if you need or would like your child's login information.

TOP WAYS TO USE IXL AT HOME

- 1 Explore personalized skill suggestions**
Encourage your child to visit their Recommendations wall for helpful review or new challenges—it's full of skills picked just for them!
- 2 Stay in the loop**
Sign in to your child's account and click on Analytics to see what they've been working on and take a peek at their progress.
- 3 Celebrate your child's accomplishments**
Want to receive certificates whenever your child reaches a milestone? Sign in, click on their profile icon, and enter your e-mail address under "Profile & settings".

Helpful Links

- ★ [Kennedy - Homepage](#)
- ★ [Kennedy Communications Program Website](#)
- ★ [Kennedy Middle School Newsletter](#)
- ★ [Clubs/Activities Information at KMS](#)

Reminders

- ★ If your child is going to be absent or tardy, please email Ms. Stevens and Ms. Magill before 7:35 am, **and** call the absence line at Kennedy Middle School.
 - [Phone Number \(main office\):](#) (508) 647-6650
 - [Absentee Number:](#) (508) 647-6651

Unified Basketball

March 2023

Meet the coaches!

Coach Lyth and Coach Fledderjohn will be leading our Unified Basketball team this March! We are so excited!

Please reach out to them for any questions about the upcoming season!



Tentative Schedule March 2023

- ★ Weds March 1st- Practice
- ★ Tues March 7th - Practice
- ★ Weds March 8th- Practice
- ★ **Tues March 14th - Home Game vs. Wilson 3:15pm**
- ★ Weds March 15th- No Practice 1/2 Day
- ★ **Tues March 21st- Away Game at Pollard MS (Needham) 3:45pm**
- ★ Weds March 22rd - Practice
- ★ **Tues March 28th- Away Game at Wilson 3:15pm**



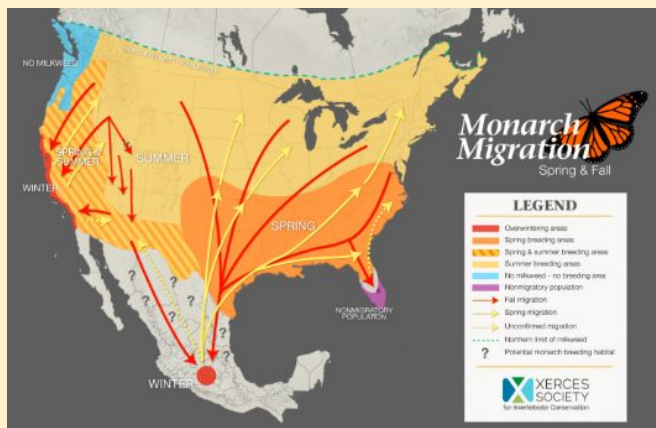
Speech Corner

Sarah Hannigan, MS, CCC-SLP
Shannigan@natickps.org

[LINK](#) TO MONTHLY SPEECH CALENDAR!



During the month of January, we learned about and discussed animals in winter. We focused on vocabulary terms and comparing and contrasting what different animals do. We watched videos of the different animal hibernating, hunting, migrating, and storing food, and the kids practice narrating the various actions. We also listened to a song about animals in winter that was a fan favorite with all of the groups! Song link can be found [here](#)



AAC Tip of the Month

Julianne Adams, MS, CCC-SLP

jadams@natickps.org

Honor Every Communication

I often hear from parents that their child will touch “random” buttons on their talkers. I want to encourage you to honor every communication on the AAC device, even if it seems out of context. This shows that you are interested and focused on their communication, even if you don’t quite understand it. You can also use opportunities of seemingly “out of context” to relate what they say to “real life.” For example, if a child selects every color of the rainbow, grab some markers and start to draw with the colors that they talk about. This could turn into a silly game and some really nice connection, which is what communication is all about!



Students' Corner

Throughout January and February we worked on reading the News 2 You story: Kiruna Snow Festival and focused on completing worksheets related to the story. Below we've included students' answers to the think page. The think page includes three questions for students to answer. We focus a lot on turning the question around to answer the question in a complete sentence. Enjoy the responses below!

Think Page Questions

<p><i>What do you like to do in the winter?</i></p>	<p><i>What kind of snow sculpture would you create?</i></p>	<p><i>Would you like to play on a snow playground?</i></p>	<p><i>What do you think people wear to the Snow Festival?</i></p>
<p>In winter I like to make snowman, because I like to have fun.</p>	<p>I would create an elephant.</p>	<p>I would like to play on a snow playground because to play on the swing.</p>	<p>I think people wear jackets and hats to the snow festival.</p>
<p>-Benjamin Jiang</p>	<p>-Nigel Jauw</p>	<p>-Brooke Whalen</p>	<p>-Christopher Goshgarian</p>
<p>I like to have a snowball fight with my Dad in winter.</p>	<p>Ice cream snow sculpture!</p>	<p>Yes, because playgrounds are fun.</p>	<p>They wear jackets, scarves, snow pants and mittens because these are things you wear in winter.</p>
<p>-Marko Vasylevskyi</p>	<p>-Charlie Hernandez</p>	<p>-Evan Mann</p>	<p>-Alex Goshgarian</p>



Kids play at the Kiruna Snow Festival in Sweden.

Kiruna Snow Festival



The Kiruna Snow Festival starts on January 25.



25

The Snow Festival celebrates snow and winter.



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Kids play at the Kiruna Snow Festival in Sweden.

Kiruna Snow Festival



The Kiruna Snow Festival starts on January 25. The Snow Festival celebrates snow and winter.

The Snow Festival is in Kiruna, Sweden. Sweden is a country in northern Europe.



Here are samples of two of the levels of our News 2 You story about the Kiruna Snow Festival. Picture-supported text benefit visual working memory and help our students feel more independent with their reading!

Question of the Day!

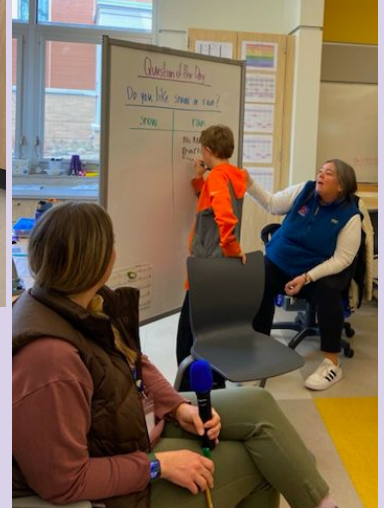
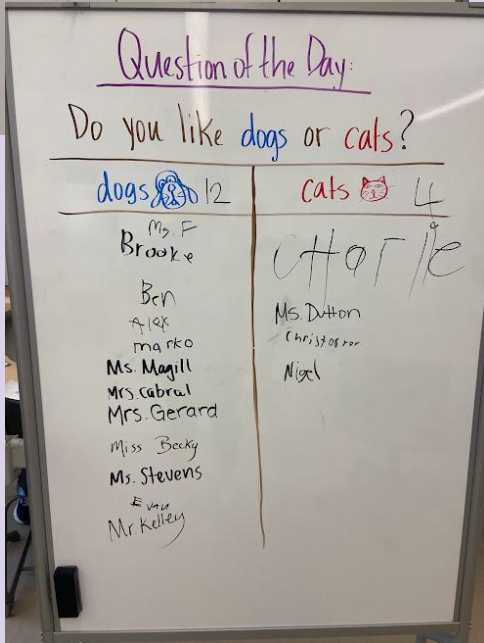
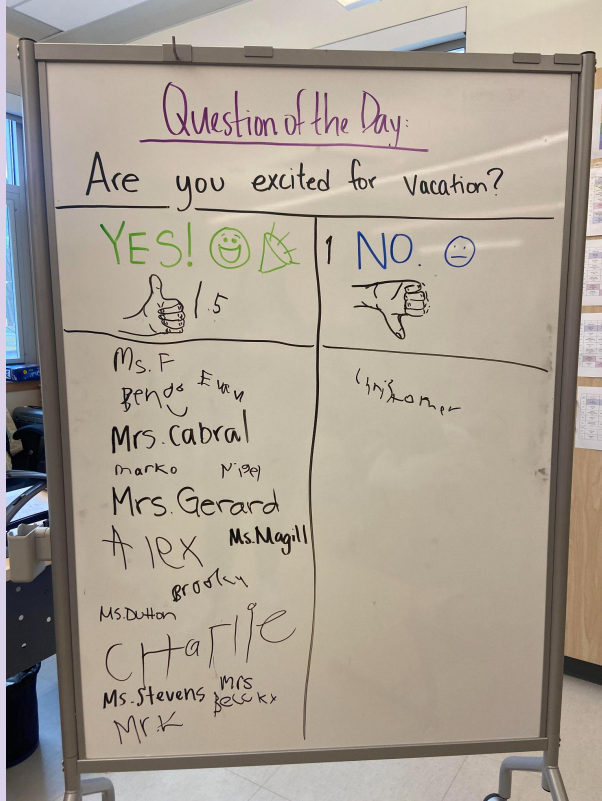
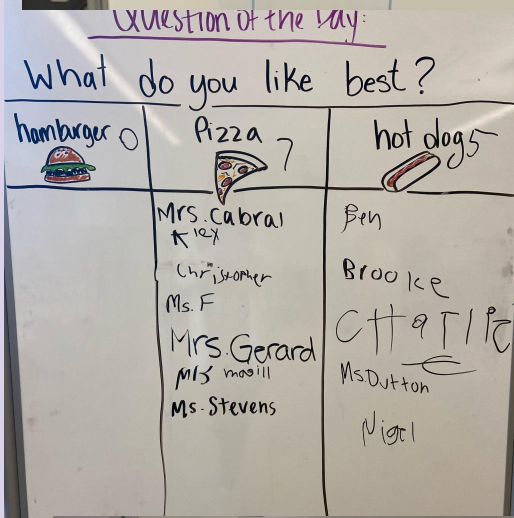
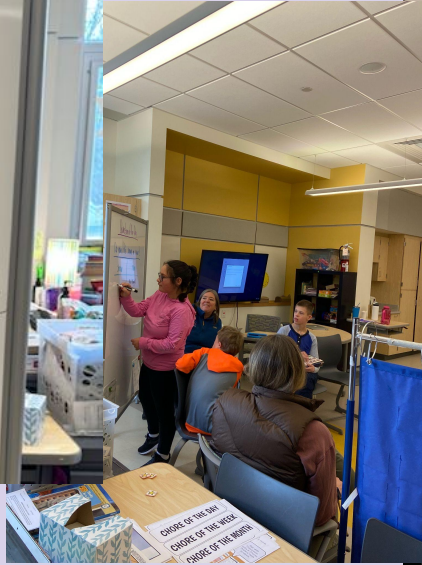
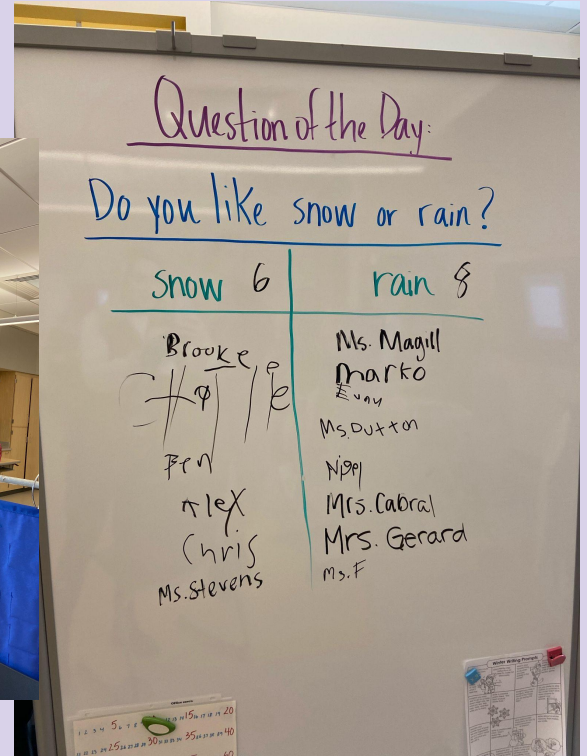
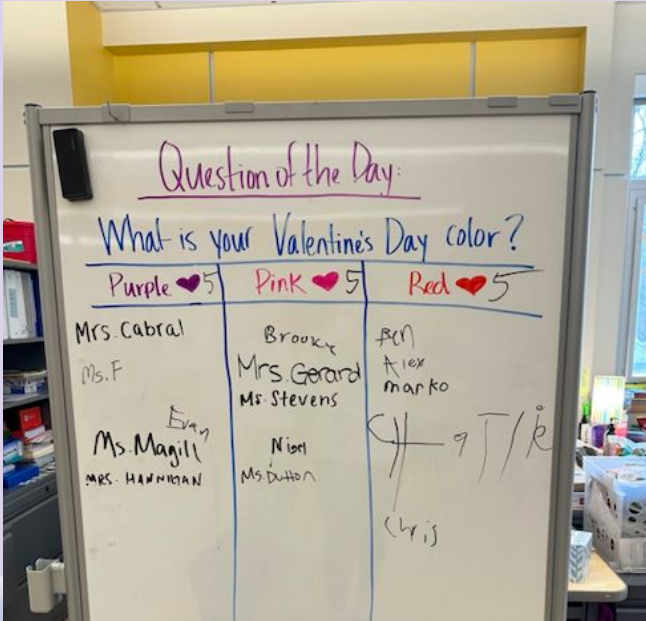


Photo Gallery!

Community Outing & Cooking

Christopher picking out ingredients at Roche Brothers!





Jax's birthday is happening over February break, so we decided to celebrate today! We made sure to mark Jax's Birthday on our classroom calendar; and discussed it as one thing that is special about February during morning meeting! We are so thankful for him here at Kennedy!

Classroom visits from Jax!



Lunch Bunch!



Lunch Bunch happens every single Tuesday here at Kennedy! Lunch Bunch is a fabulous time for our students to make connections with their peers..

We always try to have students participate in fun and meaningful conversations with one another. One way we do this is by using questions cards to help initiate conversations, and facilitate meaningful conversations.

This year, we have a large number of students who join us every Tuesday. Most of the peers that join our Lunch Bunch are also in Connections Club after school! It is the highlight of most of the students weeks! We are so excited to continue Lunch Bunch when we come back from break.

Connections Club!

