



Kerby Elementary School

November 3, 2017

Dear Kerby Parents,

As we are now well into the school year, we are busy teaching your children many things here at school. Much of which is academic content; however, you would be surprised at how many other lessons teachers squeeze into a school day. Often we find ourselves teaching kids to tie shoes or zip a coat. We also teach kids to be kind and handle conflict. I know that all teachers and parents want our children to be independently successful. It might seem next to impossible to start teaching these types of skills to a 5 or 6 year old. Here are a few tips to help teach independence to your children starting at home.

Identify opportunities for tasks that your children can begin to do themselves such as pack their lunch, get their backpack ready, get themselves dressed, tie their own shoes, etc. Teaching small levels of independence will go a long way at home and at school.

Teach your children to advocate for themselves. It is very easy to sweep in and solve your children's problems for them by emailing their teacher or talking to a peer's parents. However, you are teaching a much more valuable life skill when you coach them into doing it for themselves. Give your child language to use so they can tell their teacher if they don't like their seat placement or would like a second chance at an assignment. Practice conversations that they could have with a friend if they are upset. These life skills will continue to help them far beyond elementary school.

Don't expect your children's way to be perfect. Your children might not tie their shoes as tight as you do or they might write their book title sloppier than you on their reading log. But, allowing them to make those mistakes teaches a level of independence they will never learn if you continue take their pencil and write their book title for them. Let your child make mistakes. They are an opportunity to learn.

Leave extra time to complete tasks. It is natural to want to take over if you are late or short on time. Allowing 10 extra minutes to get ready in the morning will lessen the morning arguments and allow your child to do more independently.

Let them walk into school themselves. A great way to allow a child to show independence is to allow them to walk into school without a parent. They learn to be brave and to organize their materials independently. Often children are less emotional and more able to be independent without a parent nearby. We encourage all children to enter Kerby independently in the morning!

I look forward to hearing about all of the ways you try to promote independence and risk-taking with your children over the remainder of the school year. If you have a story to share, feel free to reach out at any time.

Sincerely,

Sara Delgado



Key Kerby Dates



Nov. 7	No School Students—Election Day—Staff Development
Nov. 12	Grosse Pointe Public School System Open House 1-3 P.M.
Nov. 16	Telly's Place Fundraiser—5-9 P.M.
Nov. 20	Kerby Winter Concert at Brownell 7P.M. Grades 1, 3, 5, & Choir
Nov. 21	A.M. School Only—11:36 Dismissal
Nov. 22-24	No School—Thanksgiving Break
Nov. 29	Moosejaw Fundraiser—4-9 P.M.
Nov. 30	P.T.O. Meeting—Kerby Library—6:30 P.M.
Dec. 6	Parent-Teacher Conferences—Evening Only
Dec. 7	A.M. Only for Students—11:36 A.M. Dismissal Parent-Teacher Conferences—P.M. & Evening
Dec. 8	Which Wich Fundraiser—10:30 A.M.-9 P.M.
Dec. 8	Polar Express Night—6-8 P.M.
Dec. 25-Jan. 2	Winter Break—No School
Jan. 3	School Resumes



ASK THE PRINCIPAL!

→ Should I lock my bike when I arrive at school?

All students should remember to lock their bikes once they arrive at school. Also, if you ride your bike to school in the morning, please make sure that you have reflective surfaces on your bike or even on your jacket. It is still dark in the morning and we want to make sure everyone gets here safely.

→ Can students bring any toys and trading cards to school?

Students are **not** to bring any toys or any trading cards (for example, Pokémon, baseball, etc.) to school.

→ What time do students need to be at Kerby ready to learn?

Please remember that the bell rings at 8:20 A.M. Tuesday through Friday and at 9:05 A.M. on Monday. Students are expected to be in their classrooms and ready to learn five minutes following the bell. Students have optimal learning time when present and prepared. If your child is tardy for school, please make sure you walk them into the school and directly into the office. This will assist us with accountability of the children. We appreciate your help in this matter!

→ Why are there reserved parking spots in the Kerby lot?

There are several reserved parking spots in the Kerby front parking lot for traveling teachers who come with in the morning or afternoon to teach. Please do not park in the reserved spots at any time. Also, please join us in being good neighbors and do not pull into driveways across from Kerby School.

→ What should children wear to school now that the weather is changing?

Falling leaves and falling temperatures mean it's time to put away the sandals and shorts and time to get out some cold weather gear. Students go outside every day unless the weather is truly horrible. Please make sure that your child wears a jacket or coat to school in the morning. If it warms up above 60 degrees students may go outside without their jackets or coats. Please also send an extra sweater or sweatshirt to keep at school. And it's not too early to send a pair of gloves and hat. November weather is very unpredictable!

Kerby Open House

Dear Kerby Families,

On **November 12th, from 1-3 p.m.**, the Grosse Pointe Public School System is hosting an Open House for the entire Grosse Pointe school community. The purpose is for all of our residents to learn and experience what the Grosse Pointe Public Schools have to offer. Our school system offers a world class education. Whether it is our strong curriculum, special activities, or support services, we have it all. From parents, supporting staff, administrators, and teachers, all the way to our surrounding businesses, there is always someone putting in the extra effort to make students' days full of learning and fun. We know many Grosse Pointe families see this daily, but we also realize some choose to go a different route in education, and some have children that graduated from the system years ago.

Please consider being a GPPSS ambassador by reaching out to a neighbor who doesn't have a child currently attending our public schools. Bring them to the open house so they can see today's schools, schools we are proud to call our own.

On November 12th, parents, students, and staff will be available to help the public learn about the wonderful services and programs available in our district. Kerby is lucky to be one of the pilot schools for the 21st Century Learning Classroom pilot for the district. Come by on November 12th to take a look at one of our 3rd grade classrooms that is set up as a modern learning space. Our teachers will be here to answer any questions you might have about the collaborative and interactive environment that our third graders are lucky enough to experience on a daily basis. All GPPSS schools will be open from 1-3 p.m. In addition to new families, current Grosse Pointe students and their parents are encouraged to visit schools they will soon transition into. We'd love to see preschoolers and their parents and guardians at the elementary schools, fifth grade families at the middle schools, and eighth grade families at the high schools. The Board of Realtors will also be hosting Open Houses at dozens of homes that day. Together with the Chamber of Commerce, we'll show why we "live, learn and play" in Grosse Pointe.

Thank you for all you do for our school community.

*Sincerely,
From The Kerby Staff*



Spanish Update

¡Hola! Our first Spanish rotation is almost over, and students will be transitioning to library in mid-November. I hope that you will continue to encourage them to review their vocabulary at home. I love the Duolingo app and the Epic! reading app (which has Spanish stories)! There are countless more free Spanish games and activities if you check the app store. Students may also enjoy watching movies and cartoons that they already love in Spanish! I also highly recommend family field trips to local restaurants and the Detroit Institute of Arts for some cultural fun. Finally, you can always check out our website at <http://sragrattan.weebly.com/>, where students will find many of their favorite songs and materials from this rotation.

3rd graders have been studying greetings, courtesy, numbers 1-30 for age, emotions, descriptive vocabulary, and Mexican artist Frida Kahlo. We will be finishing up this rotation with lessons on the monarch butterfly migration to Mexico, and the Spanish alphabet.

4th graders have been working on weather, dates, and large numbers. We are now tying in our weather vocabulary with a unit on Peru, clothing, and marketplaces.

5th graders had an introduction to the culture and history of Spain to start the year. We recently finished comparing and contrasting the hobbies and sports that we enjoy with those of Spain. We are finishing our rotation with a unit on family, birthdays, and other celebrations in Spanish-speaking countries.

¡Hasta pronto! See you soon!

Señora Grattan





CONGRATULATIONS!



Kerby Student Council Officers, Room Representatives, & Alternates (*) 2017-2018

*President - Brigid W.
Secretary - Ravi H.*

*Vice President - Michael M.
Treasurer - Ella D.*

Ms. Briggs/1st grade

1. Cecily H.
2. Matthew S.
3. Adler H.*

Ms. Corio/1st grade

1. Jacob G.
2. Marjorie T.
3. Chloe P.*

Mr. Price/1st-2nd grade

1. Lucas F.
2. Quinn S.
3. William H.*

Mrs. Farrell/2nd grade

1. Emmy B.
2. Sonny R.
3. Jack B.*

Mrs. Kern/2nd grade

1. Avery S.
2. Patrick G.
3. Henry D.* & Sophia Z.*

Mrs. Gerlach/3rd-4th grade

1. Ravi H.
2. Violet K.
3. Claire W.*

Mr. Brown/3rd grade

1. Fischer A.
2. Mia L.
3. Sadie E.*

Mr. Restum

1. Bizzy C.
2. Will G.
3. Krish P.*

Mrs. Remillet/4th grade

1. Nick A.
2. Madeline U.
3. Ella D.*

Mrs. Valgoi/4th grade

1. Charles B.
2. Mackenzie S.
3. Coco M.*

Mrs. Blazinski/5th grade

1. Michael M.
2. Brigid W.
3. Luke B.*

Mrs. Randazzo/5th grade

1. Jack E.
2. Sydney S.
3. Adam C.*



Kerby Walk-a-thon 2017

Another very successful year for our big Kerby fundraiser!
Many thanks to the parents, students, & our business sponsors!

We were able to raise over \$20,000.00!!!

This could not be the big success it was without the help from
the office staff, the teachers, & our wonderful volunteers at Kerby!
Thank you to all for the hard work that went into making this a huge success!

Special thanks to Mr. Brown for providing the great music to walk to.

Congratulations to Graham C & Elliot C.
for being the top two contributors.

Congratulations to the classrooms
with the highest donations.
1st Place - Mrs. Briggs' Grade 1
2nd Place - Mr. Brown's Grade 3
3rd Place - Mrs. Farrell's Grade 2

Each of the three winning classrooms
will be getting popsicles!



Coming Soon!

"Wintersgiving Sing!"

A concert presented by the students in the following classes:
Briggs, Corio, Brown, Restum, Blazinski, Randazzo & ½ Kerby Choir!
Monday, 11-20-17 Brownell Middle School at 7PM



We have combined the Thanksgiving Sing & the Winter Concert into one spectacular evening event, the "Wintersgiving Sing!" We will be sharing our favorite traditional Thanksgiving songs (yes, we're talking about "Super Turkey!") plus songs to celebrate the wonders of winter...snow, holidays, family, and friends. We hope this will be a fun way for your family to kick off the holiday season!

Mrs. Magill selects a special place for every child on stage. If you know your schedule will prevent you from attending, please let Mrs. Magill as soon as possible so that the stage arrangement can be adjusted.

Students are to report to assigned classrooms at Brownell at 6:45p.m. Performers are encouraged to wear "Dressy Best." When choosing your ensemble, please keep in mind that the stage can get quite warm!

Ladies, please wear flat shoes or low heels if possible as you will be climbing up and down the risers.

Safety and comfort first for our young performers!

We look forward to sharing a festive evening of song with you!

Don't forget, students in the following classes will perform in the Spring Concert, May 22, 2018: Cronovich, Maddalena, VanTol, Farrell, Kern, Price, Gerlach, Remillet, Valgoi & the ½ Kerby Choir.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Remember we continue to collect box tops for Kerby School. "Box Tops for Education" is a very easy fundraiser for Kerby because it involves NO SELLING to family and friends.

Kerby parents buy participating products, cut the box top or UPC code off the product, and send it to Kerby School. Kerby receives 10 cents from General Mills for each proof of purchase sent in.



Visit www.boxtopsforeducation.com for a complete list of eligible products. Help us more by asking others to collect for Kerby, too.

Art Room News



ART ROOM WISH LIST:

LOTS of Baby Wipes! These are especially helpful during pastel and painting units!
Also: if your child does NOT yet have an Art Smock, PLEASE send one in immediately.
Your child's wardrobe will thank you and so will I!

I hope all of my Kerby parents are enjoying the emails from Artsonia when I upload your child's finished art projects! I LOVE knowing your day will be brighter when you get to share in your child's latest creation. (I will be photographing a backlog of fall artwork soon.)

We are off to a great start this year in the Art Room at Kerby! We are learning about the **Elements of Art (Line, Shape, Color, Texture, Space, Form and Value)** and how to thoughtfully implement them when creating our art work. We are also exploring some Fabulous Autumn themed projects, brand new this year. These are turning out beautifully, and with amazing color! In the next few weeks, each grade will be creating Winter themed art work. I will publish these to Artsonia as soon as they are completed, so those of you who would like to order them printed on Holiday cards may do so. See below to find out what each grade has been or will be creating.

Kindergarten: We have finished up our Mouse Paint project on color mixing, and finished our Silly Face Pumpkins (which, by the way, are HILARIOUS)! We will soon be starting our Print-making project - making Snowflakes- where we talk a lot about symmetry.

1st Grade: We have finished up Matisse, and are now wrapping up our explorations of contour line, pattern, and color with our Hot Air Balloon project. We will be starting our winter scene - creating a snowman in a blizzard.

2nd Grade: We finished our exploration of artist Frank Stella with a drawing that turned into a Sculpture, and are starting our "Winter Birch Trees" project – one of my FAVORITES!

3rd Grade: We have finished our detailed patterns and painting on our large Alebrije Owls, and are now working on our new "Skiing Snowman." This one is hysterical. I am so proud of how hard each kiddo has worked on their snowman! Next we will be exploring Central and South American folk art.

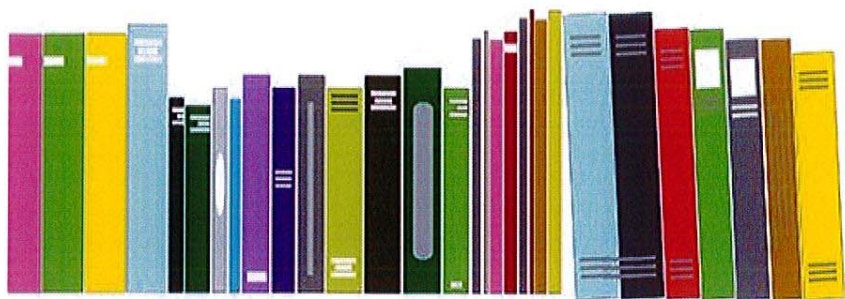
4th Grade: We have wrapped up our Cubism project with Pablo Picasso. Ask your child what made the Cubism style so special. Next, we will be working on our winter scene!

5th Grade: We finished our Elements of Art booklets and dramatic landscape drawing of Pumpkins at Midnight, using Chalk pastels. This is a great drawing where we can demonstrate our understanding of the art elements: Space (foreground, middle, and background); Value (light, medium, and dark ranges within a color). Next, we will begin our Winter Woodland Scene.

Happy Art Making,

Ms. Erin Maday
Kerby, Richard, and Mason Elementary Schools





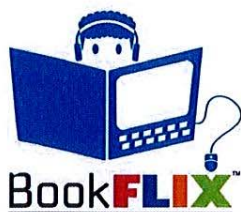
Digital Picks

*From your Elementary Library
Media Specialists*

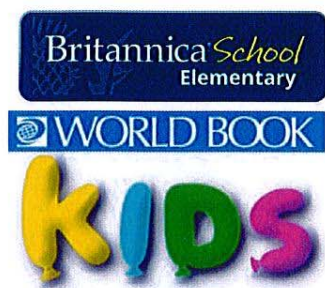
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The Grosse Pointe Public Schools offer easy, 24-7 access to a variety of kid-friendly digital resources for reading and research. Links to all of these wonderful websites/databases can be found on our school's homepage under the "Library" tab--just select "GPPS Library Reference Sources" and explore!



BookFLIX pairs high-quality Weston Woods videos of more than 120 popular fiction stories with non-fiction e-books on related topics. Themes include "Animals and Nature," "Earth and Sky," "People and Places," "ABCs and 123s," and "Adventure." Games and puzzles add to the fun!



Britannica and **World Book** have been helping students research for generations! These kid-centric digital versions provide trustworthy and current information in an engaging combination of articles, images, maps, infographics, videos and games. Links to additional sources, a built-in dictionary, AND a read-aloud feature make these invaluable resources for curious K-5 researchers.



Kids InfoBits is an easy-to-navigate database of timely articles, images, infographics, and videos on popular topics, drawn from a variety of reference books, magazines, and news periodicals.



Kiddle offers a kid-safe alternative to searching the web with Google. A visual search engine for kids powered by Google, Kiddle offers webpages, images, and videos selected and vetted by Kiddle editors especially for a young audience.

Elementary Library Media Specialists

- **Danielle Gostomski:** Kerby, Mason, Poupard, Richard
- **Amy Hermon:** Kerby, Maire, Poupard, Richard
- **Sherry Martin:** Defer, Ferry, Mason, Monteith, Poupard
- **Cheryl Quinlan:** Defer, Kerby, Maire, Mason, Monteith
- **Rachel Walpole:** Defer, Richard, Trombly



