

FEBRUARY 2017

THE KAHLER CONNECTION

Ken Newton - Principal // Timothy Doyle -Assistant // Frank Zaremba - Dean

EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

20

President's Day
No school

23

Kindergarten Meeting
8:00 - 8:40 am.

28

*Wake Up Call- Stairway
to Heroin Educational
Series*

12:00-1:30 pm

4:30-6:00 pm

6:30-8:00 pm

FROM THE LIBRARIAN:

The Scholastic Book Fair was held in the library last October. A big thank you goes out to my wonderful volunteers: Jennifer Bacso, Gail Beauchamp, JaNeen Good, Susan Munsie, Paula Nebel, Tera Urbanski and Kerry Ericksen. Thanks again to all of you for your time and dedication to the Kahler library!

The next book fair is scheduled for April 3-7.

D.A.R.E PROGRAM



The substance abuse prevention education program, also known as D.A.R.E, began at Kahler on Jan. 13. Officer Brian Kissinger runs the D.A.R.E program with the help of his new furry companion, Kolt.

The D.A.R.E program is not new to Protsman. After several years of students completing this program, it has remained a constant part of the children's curriculum.

Mrs. Amy Wyndrinski's 5th grade class had their first session this day. The students started off their session taking a survey to

allow Officer Kissinger, and their fellow classmates, learn more about each other.

They talked about their favorites, like sports teams, songs, and food. The students also practiced their hand-shaking and eye contact skills, which the students oftentimes giggled at.

At the end of their first session, the students had the opportunity to pet Kolt on their way to their next class.

Is it safe to say that the D.A.R.E program is off to a great start.

HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR PRESENTATION



On Jan. 24, Rabbi Stevens and Judy Stevens visited Kahler to talk to students about the Holocaust.

Sarah Stidham, Language Arts, was able to come into contact with them for a presentation.

The presentation started off with a brief history lesson from Rabbi Stevens, who is a retired Rabbi.

Judy Stevens' parents were victims of the Holo-

caust and she shared some of her own family's experience.

Judy Stevens also shared some pictures of her own family members.

The students remained respectful and quiet throughout the presentation. A huge thanks to Rabbi Stevens and Judy Stevens for this enlightening experience.

CLUB HIGHLIGHTS

KINDNESS COUNTS



The Kindness club, hosted by Mrs. Erin Spinks, Guidance, promotes kindness in and out of school. Club members do various different activities to showcase this.

"We help run a new student breakfast in the fall and members help. We [also] help decorate for Veteran's Day program, give to the needy and promote character education in the school," Mrs.

Spinks said.

The Kindness has been around for six years and always welcomes new members. Their ultimate goal is to help make kindness contagious and spread around the school.

"It's a fun club and we welcome everyone. I feel it benefits students because they are giving back to the community and school," Mrs. Spinks said.

STUDENT COUNCIL: CRUSH SALE



The Student Council is planning their annual Crush sale. On February 6 through the 10, Crush soda will be sold during your child's lunch for \$1 a can to raise money for Riley's Children's Hospital.

Riley's Children's Hospital is Indiana's largest and most skilled pediatric system, with over 50 locations across the state. They have the only pediatric research hospital in the state, ranked

among the top hospitals in the nation in 10 categories of specialized healthcare for children.

"This is our biggest and best fundraiser," Mrs. Kelly Gravely, 5th Grade, said.

There will be three flavors: grape, orange and strawberry. The sayings will be "I think you're grape", "Orange you glad we're friends" and "I have a berry big crush on you" The pop will be delivered on Feb. 14th.

SPOTLIGHT ON: STAIRWAY TO HEROIN EDUCATIONAL SERIES



Wake-Up Call is a life-size exhibit of a teen's bedroom with more than 20 "red flags" that can signal drug or alcohol use. The bedroom identifies spots where teens may hide drugs, household items that can be used as drug paraphernalia and ways teens try to cover up drug and alcohol use.

Our goal is to educate parents and other adults who are influential in the lives of youth so they know what seemingly innocent items can actually be an indication of substance abuse.

This presentation is for adults only (21 years of age and over) and will take place on Tuesday, Feb. 28 at Lake Central High School. Please enter the school through Door F. There will be three presentations: 12:00-1:30 pm, 4:30-6:00 pm and 6:30-8:00 pm.

Please register for this FREE event at <https://lakecentralwake-upcall.eventbrite.com> and indicate which time you are able to attend.

For questions about this event, please contact:

- Al Gandolfi at (219) 558-2718, agandolf@lcschools.org
- Sandi Lybert at (262) 367-9901

UPCOMING SPORTS EVENTS

4
Dance Invitational
Lake Central High School

4
*8th Grade Girls
Basketball Invitational*
Chesterton Middle School

4
*7th Grade Girls Basketball
Invitational*
Taft Middle School

7
Girls Basketball
Home

8
Girls Basketball
Home

14
Girls Basketball
Taft Middle School

15
Girls Basketball
Clark Middle School

20
Girls Basketball
Benjamin Franklin Middle
School

21
Girls Basketball
Home

21
Cheer
Home

SPORT HIGHLIGHTS

CENTRALETTE DANCE CLINIC



The Lake Central Centralettes hosted their annual dance clinic on Jan. 29. While still making time for laughs and smiles, the clinic gave the younger girls a chance to be a Centralette for a day.

"The Centralettes have always been tremendous ambassadors of goodwill for LCHS," Kevin Mathis, Dance Director, said. "This goodwill exists not only because of our achievements both locally and nationally, but because selflessness and mentoring are as important today as they were 20 years ago. 2017 marks the 22nd year we have hosted this clinic for our community. Many of our Centralettes are former Junior Centralettes. They understand their role in mentoring young dancers who may someday stand in their proverbial dance shoes. It is because of this mutual benefit, the connection we have with our community continues to flow both ways."

This clinic provides benefits not only for interested Centralettes, but current Centralettes as well.

"The purpose of our clinic is to make dance accessible in a safe and friendly environment. It introduces the community to our

team while allowing our dancers the opportunity to reconnect with the community of a personal level. It reminds our dancers why they choose dance as their sport," Mathis said.

There were three age groups at the clinic: Preschool/Kindergarten-3rd grade, 4th-6th grade and 7th-8th grade. The younger girls were able to show off their hard work during the Parent Show at the end of their session.

"The kids were so excited to show their parents and vice versa. I think the kids really picked up the dance well, so we impressed a lot of people," Maisie Westerfield (9) said.

There were a few challenges getting the girls to break out of their shells, but at the end of the session, the smiles on their faces proved that the hard work paid off.

"It was difficult getting them to be quiet and listen since they are little [and] they love to laugh and talk to us and the other girls. My favorite part about today was bringing the shy ones out of their shells and seeing them have fun and also hearing how they wanted to become dancers like us. They really are the future of the Centralettes," Hannah Hopkins (11) said.

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

FUN WITH SCIENCE



Mrs. Kelly Gravely's, 5th grade, students did an interactive science experiment to learn more about human body systems.

"Fetal pigs are mammals and almost all of the major structures are identical so the students are able to easily identify these major organs. The fetal pig dissection allows the students the opportunity to have a hands-on, investigatory approach instead of just learn-

ing from what they see in books or media," Mrs. Gravely said.

"Each student was able to engage in observing the three dimensional structures of the organs and develop a stronger understanding of how the organ systems work together. They absolutely love it and always talk about it years afterwards," Mrs. Gravely said.

ATTENTION INCOMING 8TH GRADERS



Planning for the annual Washington D.C trip has begun.

This trip is eligible for current 7th graders who will be 8th graders next year. World-

Strides wants this to remain a student only trip. Students also must have no suspensions/expulsions for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school year.

There will be four students to a room and roommates can be chosen closer to the departure date.

Included in the price will be:

- Bus to and from airport
- Roundtrip Flight (only carry ons)
- All meals
- Admission to museums/attractions
- Tour Guide/Tour Bus
- Hotel accommodations-Free Breakfast/Swimming pool
- Course Leader
- Night Chaperones in Hotel
- Evening activities
- Group photo at Capitol Building
- 24 hour emergency support
- Field Journals/Lanyards with toll-free help number
- Online education resources
- Accident/Health insurance

If your child is on special medication, they must be responsible and in charge of taking it themselves. Students must have their Student IDs for travel through the airport. It is recommended to not wear brand new shoes and to sign up with a friend. The chaperones will be Mrs. Kwiecinski and Miss Deming. Students must exhibit respect at all memorials. The tour-guide tip is an additional \$3 in cash before the trip.

Attractions include: Washington Monument, WWII Memorial, Holocaust Museum, Arlington National Cemetery (Tomb of Unknown Soldier, Changing of the Guards, JFK Gravesites), Iwo Jima Memorial, Pentagon Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Spy Museum, Mount Vernon, Capitol Hill (Capitol Tour, Library of Congress), Jefferson Memorial, White house (Photo Op), FDR Memorial, MLK Memorial, Ford's Theatre, National Archives, Smithsonian (Air and Space, American History)

To sign up online go to worldstrides.org/ sign up. The Trip ID is 14029. To sign up over the phone, the number is 800-468-5899.

To sign up through the mail or if you have any other questions, contact Kim Kwiecinski at kkwiecin@lscsmail.com or 219-865-3535 ext. 4121 for more information.

SPOTLIGHT ON: FRESHMEN PARENT NIGHT



The parents of current eighth graders were given the opportunity to visit the high school for Freshmen Parent Night. The night started at 6 p.m. on Jan. 23 with a presentation from the principals at 6:15 p.m. Parents were invited to walk through Main Street where tables set up by Department Heads, students and faculty members.

"I hope the parents left the tours not as nervous about their students getting around the school and were more informed on what classes their kids should take and what they will be doing throughout the day," Alexa Szatkowski (12) said.

Along with the informational booths about the classes, tables were set up about organizations and clubs students can join.

Even though a student may not originally be interested in an activity or hobby, being exposed to it early on can help one discover something new.

After walking through Main Street, parents were met with student volunteers offering tours of the building. Szatkowski took this chance to offer advice.

"I told the parents to make sure their students take their core classes such as fine arts credits and personal finance as early as they can so they aren't trying to cram those classes in senior year," Szatkowski said.

IN THE CLASSROOM



THE ADVENTURES OF HUCKLEBERRY FINN

After reading the novel, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, students had to do a project afterwards. One option was to do a partner performance on a scene in the movie.

"What I am trying to do with this assignment is give them experience with reading and acting in character. I am trying to get my students ready for the high school program," Mrs. Laura Bloom-Johnson, Language Arts, said. "With *Huck Finn*, they either create art and have to read 21 lines that correspond to the art or create a scene with 22 lines of dialogue adapted from the novel. My intention was to prepare them for the rigor and assignments they may see in high school in terms of public

speaking."

For some students, like Mark Mileusnic (7), this project was right up their ally.

"It was easier for him because he is an extrovert and not art inclined. The introverts like the art activity and reading out loud better, in general," Mrs. Bloom-Johnson said.

On the other hand, students were able to do things that were different than what they usually did.

"I would have to say [the hardest thing was] trying to figure out what character we would have to play because each of us has a different personality," Louis Berg (7) said.

SPOTLIGHT ON: THE GIFT OF WORDS



Photo by: Mrs. Laura Bloom-Johnson

Before Christmas break, Mrs. Laura Bloom-Johnson's, Language Arts, class gave each other untraditional presents.

The Gift of Words is a project where students wrap up a poem, a paragraph or any other written message and give it to another student.

"I wanted each student to select words that meant something to him or her. Word[s] have heft and meaning. It is a gift that costs nothing but means a lot. I have my gifts on my fridge, I read them every now and then to reflect," Mrs. Bloom-Johnson said.

WINDMILL PROJECTS



Project Lead the Way provides transformative, hands-on learning experiences for K-12 students and teachers across the U.S. Mr. Vince Pucci, Tech, is part of this program. Mr. Pucci's 8th grade class built windmills as their first assignment through automation and robotics.

"They practice building all these different mechanisms and putting it together. Then they got the assignment. Using all the mechanisms, we learned to build what you have in front of you." Mr. Pucci said, pointing to the windmills.

"They actually built these pretty quick, like [in] a day and a half [to] two days. This group had trouble with some prob-

lem solving, but they did pretty good," Mr. Pucci said.

Each windmill is not the same. The students had the option to personalize their own windmill.

"You could do it with so many different gears. Not a lot of people did [these gears] but it was an extra credit so it was harder to do," Kyle Malcuchnik (8).

The students also had some challenges they had to overcome. Brainstorming was a big help.

"I think it was difficult for them to start initially, getting a concept, but once they thought of an idea, they built it fairly simply," Mr. Pucci said.

SPOTLIGHT ON...

GLORIA FONSECA (7)

Growing up, Fonseca has never thought twice about her ability to speak two different languages. Using this ability, she helps others.

"In science when she first got here, she knew the smallest amount of English. She sat behind me and my science teacher would talk to her but she would not understand. She would look at me and I would tell her what [she said]. Now she understands more English. I help her only when she asks me or if I see her confused," Fonseca said.

Though this is not Fonseca's first time acting as a translator. She also had experience helping her mother.

"My mom married my dad, [and] she still isn't fluent [in English]. Growing up, I help[ed] my mom a lot so it was just an instinct to help her," Fonseca said.

At the end of the day, Fonseca gained a new friend.

"My friend is in the same class and she would see us talking. [She] knows that she's Colombian and I'm Mexican and we both speak Spanish. We would not only talk about school related things but like how was Colombia and she would tell me about her school," Fonseca said.



SHARON AUSTIN-WEINSTEIN (7)



Summer break is an unforgettable time for many teenagers. Sharon Austin-Weinstein (7), however, had a summer experience different from most people her age.

"Over the summer I was with my friend and I jumped into her pool. I hit the ground [and] I broke my leg. I had to be in a cast for six months. When I first started walking, I had to have crutches just to help me since I didn't walk for six months. That took me around two or three months to finally get back but then I had to do physical therapy. Now I am pretty much back to normal," Aus-

tin-Weinstein said.

Unfortunately, there were some things in her day-to-day life that had to be altered. She also had to approach practicing for sports, like running and basketball, in a different way.

"I couldn't go out because my wheelchair would be too much work [and] for school, I couldn't always walk around in case I fell down. I was afraid when I broke my leg, people would go away from me but nothing really changed. I'm [also] on the travel team when I'm not on the school [basket]ball team. I had a thing called an air cast which was just something that went over my leg. I would stand up and practice shooting free throws and something that I could do on one leg so I never really like stopped playing. [But] the first time I ran it was not pretty so I kept working to build up my muscle mass and it just came natural to me to start running again," Austin-Weinstein said.

Even after almost a year in recovery, Austin Weinstein still managed to keep a positive outlook on things.

"I feel good about myself for just getting through it and working up to where I am now. [What kept me motivated was] knowing it's only temporary and I'll get back to the things I am used to doing. It's not a permanent thing," Austin-Weinstein said.