



# THE CARDINAL CHIRP

DKFI Administrative Team

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## KUDOS/CONGRATULATIONS/ RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to our students who received their DELF 1 and 2 certificates. What a great accomplishment! Representatives from the French Embassy, the Immersion Office and the County Council were in attendance for the ceremony.

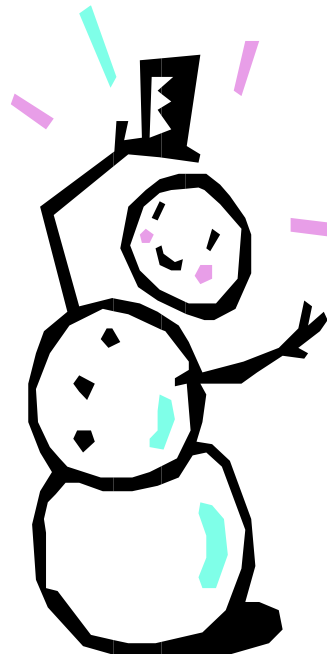
Our Green Team under the leadership of Mrs. Martha Leighty, have really put in the work to showcase our school. They have been nominated by James Roberson from the Schmidt Center to receive an award for recycling and other initiatives.

Kudos and thank you all for supporting our World's Finest Chocolate Fundraiser. We will be sharing the names of our winners on December 11th.

Parents of third graders, your students will receive pocket dictionaries donated by the K.W. Realty Company. The assembly will be taking place

on December 11th at 9:30 in the multipurpose room.

Tuesday, November 26th will be the last day of school prior to Thanksgiving. We look forward to welcoming our



Hats off to winter!!!

students back on Monday, December 3rd. Several classes have special activities planned on that last day. This information will be shared by the teacher on Class Dojo. Safe travels as you visit family and friends in and out of the area. As you know, this season of the year begins a busy time for parents, staff and students. We all must stay focused on the goals of educating our scholars.

Finally, a huge CONGRATULATIONS to our Immersion Supervisor, Carmen Henninger, for receiving the National Association of District Supervisors of Foreign Languages (NADSFL) Supervisor of the Year Award! She is so deserving of this recognition for all the work she does for all the Immersion Schools within Prince George's County.

### Special points of interest:

*November 25—Honor Roll Assemblies:*

- *2nd grade: 9:30–10:00 in their classrooms*
- *3rd–5th grades: 9:30–10:30 in the multipurpose room*
- *Middle school: 2:00–3:00 in the multipurpose room*

### Testing Dates

*November 18-22*

- *FAST Science Online*
- *Benchmark Grades 2-3*

*December 5*

- *PSAT 8/9*

### Events

*December 11*

- *3rd Gr Dictionary Giveaway Assembly (students only)*
- *Fundraiser Top Winners Named*

### School Closings

- *November 27-29 Thanksgiving Break*
- *December 23-January 1 Winter Break*

## DKFI News and Headlines

First quarter report cards went home on November 19. Second quarter progress reports will go home on December 20th. Parents you may request a conference with your child's teacher at any time for a mutually agreed

upon time if you have any questions or concerns.

Please make sure to update your contact information, i.e., new emails, work/home/cell numbers, additional adults who may need to have per-

mission to pick up your child, transportation needs, medical information, etc.



# 10 Ways to Help Your Child Succeed in Middle School

## Reviewed by: Kathryn Hoffses, PhD, Aug. 2018

Parental support plays an important part in helping preteens and teens succeed in middle school. But as students grow more independent during these years, it can be hard for parents to know which situations call for involvement and which call for a more behind-the-scenes approach.

### 1. Attend Back-to-School Night and Parent-Teacher Conferences

Preteens and teens do better in school when parents are involved in their academic lives. Attending back-to-school night at the start of the school year is a great way to get to know your child's teachers and their expectations. School administrators may discuss school-wide

programs and policies, too.

### 2. Visit the School and Its Website

Knowing the physical layout of the school building and grounds can help you connect with your child when you talk about his or her school day. It's good to know the location of the main office, school nurse, cafeteria, gym, athletic fields, auditorium, and special classes.

### 3. Support Homework Expectations

During the middle school years, homework gets more intense and the time spent will probably be longer than during the elementary years, usually a total of 1 to 2 hours each school night.



assignments and managing time.

### 6. Teach Study Skills

Planning is a big part of helping your middle-schooler study for tests now that he or she is juggling work from multiple teachers.

### 7. Know the Disciplinary and Bullying Policies

Schools usually cite disciplinary policies (sometimes called the student code of conduct) in student handbooks. The rules usually cover expectations, as well as

consequences for not meeting the expectations, for things like student behavior, dress codes, use of electronic devices, and acceptable language.

### 8. Get Involved

Volunteering at your child's middle school is a great way to show you're interested in his or her education.

### 9. Take Attendance Seriously

Middle schoolers should take a sick day if they have a fever, are nauseated, vomiting, or have diarrhea. Otherwise, it's im-

### 4. Send Your Child to School Ready to Learn

A nutritious breakfast fuels up middle schoolers and gets them ready for the day. In general, preteens and teens who eat breakfast have more energy and do better in school.

### 5. Instill Organization Skills

No one is born with great organizational skills — they have to be learned and practiced. Being organized is a key to success in middle school, where most students first encounter multiple teachers and classrooms on a daily basis, and where some students are participating in extra-curricular or after-school activities for the first time. Because time management skills are usually not explicitly taught in school, preteens and teens can benefit from parents helping with organizing

portant that they arrive at school on time every day, because having to catch up with class work, projects, tests, and homework can be stressful and interfere with learning.

### 10. Make Time to Talk About School

Staying connected with preteens and teens as they grow more independent can be a challenge for parents, but it's more important than ever. While activities at school, new interests, and expanding social circles can become more central to the lives of many middle school students, parents and guardians are still their anchors for providing love, guidance, and support.

## Winter Clothing Preparedness

As we swiftly move into the winter months, please make sure your students are dressed appropriately to brave the cold. Weather permitting, students will go outside for recess.

On a daily basis, unfortunately the lost and found bin still seems to fill up with coats, hats, scarves, and other winter apparel that is important for the students to go home with. Please be aware that

the lost and found bin is emptied on the 15th and 30th of each month. The school is not responsible for missing clothing, however we do our best to have all clothing found lying about placed in the bin.

It would be extremely helpful if parents write/label their child's and teacher's name on the inside of coats, hats, gloves, etc. This will increase the chances of a



child's items being returned.

Finally, talk with your child about the importance of keeping track of their coats and other items.

Placing hats and gloves in the sleeve of the coat is one way to assure the items all stay together.



Remember **doing**  
**reminders**  
remember  
**don't**  
**forget to do**

## DKFI — Reminders

DKFI hours of operation for staff are:  
 8:45 a.m.— 4:15 p.m. The office is not open prior to that time. Any calls or arrivals prior to the start of school, unfortunately will not be answered. If you have an early appointment scheduled with a teacher, you must contact the teacher when you are close, so they may meet you at the door.

Appointments with teachers are the responsibility of the teacher and parent to arrange. Appointments for the Principal are arranged by the Principal's Secretary. Walk-ins are not permitted. Please either

call or email to arrange appointments.

Parent volunteers/chaperones must complete and submit their fingerprint receipt and safe schools training certificates to the front office. If the safe school training is not completed, parents will not be permitted to chaperone a field trip. Go to the following link to complete your trainings, <https://www.pgcps.org/required-training/>

Student birthdays are a very special occasion, however, food, and balloons are not allowed at school. If you choose to celebrate your child at school, you can provide small gift bags for the class that contain

items such as pencils, erasers, crayons, etc. You must receive permission from the teacher to hold any type of party.

Please make sure your child has enough money on their meal account at all times. If your child's account is low or depleted, they will receive an alternative lunch instead of a hot lunch tray.

Parents be aware that My School Bucks defaults to the student's lunch account, please make sure to browse the DKFI school store to pay for field trips, t-shirts and any other items.

## Middle School Athletics Basketball Season

Home	Visiting	Division	Location	Date	Time	Plays 1st
Charles Carroll	Dora Kennedy	West Division	Charles Carroll	11/20/2019	6:00:00 PM	Girls
Dora Kennedy	Thomas Johnson	West Division	Dora Kennedy	11/25/2019	6:00:00 PM	Boys
Thomas Pullen	Dora Kennedy	West Division	Thomas Pullen	12/2/2019	6:00:00 PM	Girls
Dora Kennedy	Gholson	West Division	Dora Kennedy	12/4/2019	6:00:00 PM	Boys
Kenmoor	Dora Kennedy	West Division	Kenmoor	12/9/2019	6:00:00 PM	Girls
Dora Kennedy	William Wirt	West Division	Dora Kennedy	12/11/2019	6:00:00 PM	Boys
Greenbelt	Dora Kennedy	West Division	Greenbelt	12/16/2019	6:00:00 PM	Girls
Dora Kennedy	Imagine An-	West Division	Dora Kennedy	12/18/2019	6:00:00 PM	Boys
Robert God-	Dora Kennedy	West Division	Robert Goddard	1/6/2020	6:00:00 PM	Girls
Dora Kennedy	Imagine Leeland	West Division	Dora Kennedy	1/8/2020	6:00:00 PM	Boys



# November 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <i>Fast Science Online</i>	19 <i>Benchmark Testing</i>	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 <i>Thanksgiving break</i>	28	29	30

# December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 <i>PSAT 8/9 Testing</i>	6	7
8	9	10	11 <i>Fundraiser Winners Named, 3rd Gr Assembly</i>	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 <i>2nd Qtr Progress Reports Released</i>	21
22	23 <i>Winter Break</i>	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				