

# Knapp Elementary Newsletter



October 1, 2023

## From the Principal

Knapp Families,

We are having a busy fall with a field trip to the Environmental Site and an upcoming visit from the Menomonie Fire Department on fire safety. Supporting students and families is a priority at Knapp Elementary. We will be hosting parent-teacher conferences as well as learning about Bully Prevention Month in October. In addition, please take a look at the resources provided by our school counselor as well as opportunities for the reteaching of school-wide expectations for our students.

October is National Bully Prevention Month and we will spend the month sharing information with our students and teaching them how to identify and respond to a bullying situation. To help our school be a safe and respectful place, we are going to use the *Second Step Bullying Prevention Unit*. In the lessons, your child will learn specific skills to help stop bullying.

The district has a Bully Prevention Zone on the SDMA website. Please review the information about the district's value statement on bullying and what can be done if a situation arises. Please call or email me if there are any concerns. There is also an online form that can be

submitted that will go directly to me.

We will also celebrate Unity Day across the district on **October 18th**. We are asking staff and students to **wear orange** wear as a tangible representation of the supportive, universal message that we want to prevent bullying, and are united for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.

At Knapp, we believe in the importance of teaching clear and explicit behavioral expectations to our students. We spent the month of September teaching our students the behavioral expectations in the common areas of our school as well as the expectations in our classrooms. We also believe in the importance of reteaching behaviors with our students. We do not want students or parents to view reteachings as punitive or a punishment but rather an opportunity to relearn the expectation and be provided with the opportunity to fix their behavior. You may receive information from your child's teacher that your student received a Minor Reteaching Form which can be utilized as an opportunity to talk with your student about their chance to relearn the expectations at school and correct their behavior for the future.

Looking forward to a busy October!

-Mrs. Branch



## Parent—Teacher Conferences

Conferences will run 4:00-7:45 pm Thursday, October 5 and Tuesday, October 10. This is a great opportunity to enhance the family-school partnership. Teachers are eager to communicate the academic and social-emotional progress of your student and share how you can continue to support their development.

**There will be no school on Friday or Monday, October 13 & 16.**

## October Calendar

- 5 Parent / Teacher Conferences
- 6 Popcorn Friday
- 9-13 Fire Safety Week
- 10 Parent / Teacher Conferences
- 13 NO SCHOOL
- 16 NO SCHOOL- PD Day
- 18 Unity Day- wear orange
- 23 Picture Retakes
- 24 Vision & Hearing Screenings
- 31 Halloween Parties

## Veterans Day Pictures

The students and staff at Knapp would like to honor men and women who have served in the armed forces in our

Veteran's Day program on

**November 10th at 10:20 am.**

If you have a parent, grandparent or other relative that has served and would like to submit a military photo that will be presented in the program please send to school by **October 20th.**

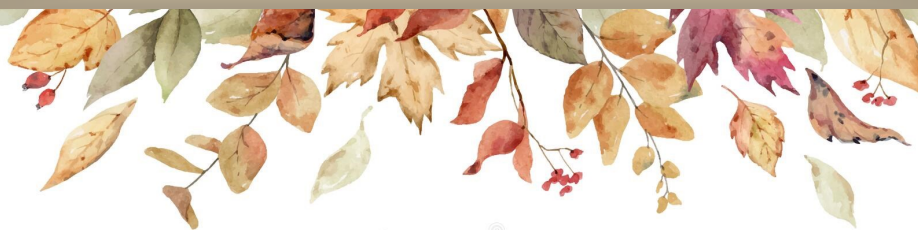
*(if you sent a photo last year, we would still have that in the slideshow)*

Please send the photo digitally to [loretta\\_leable@msd.k12.wi.us](mailto:loretta_leable@msd.k12.wi.us) or with your student in an envelope labeled with the following:

- The student's name
- The relation to the student
- The name of who served
- The branch they served in.

We want to make sure the photo can be returned to your family.

## Understanding School Attendance



School attendance is a key component to success at school. Please support your child in developing the routine of getting to school daily and on time. When your child is sick or has an appointment please call or email Loretta Leable, [loretta\\_leable@msd.k12.wi.us](mailto:loretta_leable@msd.k12.wi.us), in the school office for notification as she tracks and records attendance each day.

- If your child is dropped off after 9:00 am without a legitimate reason (ex. appointment), they will be considered **Unexcused/Absent** for Period 1 (half day as we have 2 periods)
- If you do not call in your child's absence, that is considered "**Unexcused/No Contact**" and the school will place a call to your primary phone number.
- Parents are allowed up to 10 excused absences for their child.
- You will receive attendance letters after 5 unexcused or 10 excused absences which is required by the state. A meeting at school or proof of appointment visits may be required after 10 absences.

## Counselor's Corner

Our school counselor, **Bretta Snyder** supports Knapp students and families.

**As a counselor, she can...**

- *see children individually and in small groups on a short term basis.*
- *facilitate classroom SEL activities for all students.*
- *work with teachers, administrators and community agencies.*
- *work with parents to help their children achieve their fullest academic, social, and emotional potential.*

**An elementary school counselor helps...**

- *children develop a better understanding and acceptance of themselves.*
- *children cope with family changes.*
- *children develop decision making and problem solving skills.*
- *students understand themselves in relation to their own career development.*
- *parents understand their child's emotions, behaviors and learning styles and assist them in meeting their child's needs.*
- *teachers and administrators in understanding and meeting the needs of all students in intellectual, personal, social and emotional areas.*
- *parents and teachers together develop services to make the school an optimal learning environment.*



**Our elementary counselor encourages parent involvement.** Parents are invited to contact their child's counselor with any concerns, input and/or requests for assistance regarding their children.

Please be sure to check out the brand new [Virtual Calming Corner](#) This can be found by going to the Knapp Webpage and selecting Programs and Services, School Counseling, and then Virtual Calming Corner.



## Mrs. Blomquist – PE Sidelines

In Phy Ed this month we have focused on Sportsmanship and Respect. I would like to encourage families to play board games at home and continue to work on good sportsmanship, playing fair and by the rules.

Giving your child reminders of:

- this is just a game
- we will accept the outcome, no matter what
- encouraging them to say "Good Game" or shake hands at the end of the game

Below 3rd graders are working together to collect all the resources moving one hula hoop at a time.



Looking for a family fun activity? Consider hiking the Hoffman Hills, which is located east of Menomonie! This is a perfect place to admire the changing leaves. Are you adventurous enough to climb the 60 ft observation tower?



## Fire Safety Week– Oct. 9 - 13

Students practice fire drills each month at school, but would they know how to stay safe from a fire in their own home?

This year's Fire Prevention Week celebrates 100 years! This year's theme "**Cooking Safety Starts with YOU!™**" works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe when cooking. (see these helpful links

[Cooking Safety](#) & [Electrical Cooking Safety](#))



## Student Council News

This month, students in grades 3-5 will be holding elections in their classrooms to choose their **Student Council Representatives**. Advisor, Ms. Bretta Snyder will make popcorn for our first Popcorn Friday on October 6.

## Halloween Parties

Halloween parties will take place in the afternoon. Please help your child(ren) make good choices regarding costumes. Fake weapons and fake blood should not be sent with your child. Treats need to be purchased and individually packaged. A parade will follow near the end of the day.



  
**HAPPY  
HALLOWEEN**

# National Bullying Prevention Month

**October is National Bullying Prevention Month!** To help our school be a safe and respectful place, we are going to use the *Second Step Bullying Prevention Unit*. In the lessons, your child will learn specific skills to help stop bullying. Students will learn how to:

- **Recognize** when bullying is happening
- **Report** bullying to a caring adult
- **Refuse** to let bullying happen to themselves or others
- Be a **bystander** who stands up and is part of the solution to bullying
- Fourth and Fifth Grade will also learn how to **Recognize, Refuse, and Report** cyber bullying when they see or know about it happening

And we need your help, too! Get involved in making our school a safe and respectful place by letting us know if you hear about bullying at our school. Make sure your child knows to tell you or someone at school if he or she is being bullied. And give your child the clear message that it is never okay to bully others.

Make sure to join **SecondStep.org** with the activation code for your child's grade level to get information about what your child is learning in the *Second Step program*!

- Kindergarten (**BPUK FAMI LY00**)
- First Grade (**BPU1 FAMI LY01**)
- Second Grade (**BPU2 FAMI LY02**)
- Third Grade (**BPU3 FAMI LY03**)
- Fourth Grade (**BPU4 FAMI LY04**)
- Fifth Grade (**BPU5 FAMI LY05**)

**Bretta Snyder**  
**School Counselor**

