



Special points of interest:

- Back to school news
- Fundraiser information
- Sports Update
- Check us out at www.kennedyirish.com.

Life At Kennedy

By Samantha Younie

There are so many new and exciting things happening at Kennedy. We have some new students of the student body; volleyball and football are doing well, and many other things. I went around the school and interviewed a couple of students to get their perspectives on this school year.

I asked Samantha Whitmer and Haileigh Jacobs who their homeroom teacher is and they said, "Mr. Keil," and they like him "because in seminar he plays music, and it's just interesting." And I said, "It's the

best I especially like it when he plays music!" Whitmer said, "Homeroom is to do your homework, so then you don't have to take it home."

As an 8th grader you can do volleyball, basketball, track, cheerleading, dance team, football, and wrestling. Sports are really fun to get into, but you have to make sure you maintain your grades. To stay caught up, if you have an out of town game, you must go to them a couple days prior to your match. Then the day its' turned in you will have it done and ready to go. You can do your homework,

quizzes, or tests to stay caught up.

Kennedy is a terrific school, but I need to know why people chose it so let's hear it!

"I chose Kennedy because, it looked really fun, the student body seemed nice, and the lunches smelt amazing! Whitmer said, "My whole family went there so I didn't really have a choice but I'm happy I had to go." And Jacobs said, "All my close friends were going, and it's an awesome school!"

School lunch is an important part of the school day, so just how good is lunch at KMS? I love them! The tacos are by far the best." Samantha said, "They are great, I love the cookies." And Haileigh said, "They are the absolute best, her favorite is also the tacos." Kennedy has so many fun things going on. And just asking 3 people questions as you can tell we love Kennedy and are so happy we chose it! Hopefully, you enjoy the cookies and tacos too.



Mckenna Duffy, Emily Miller, Macie Stoecklein, Maddie Schlaefli have fun at the KMS back-to-school dance.

Fun, Fund, Fundraisers

By Monica Michaud

Fundraisers are here again, and we are ready to get to work with Kennedy Middle School's three main fundraisers of the 2009-10 school year.

There are many questions that go through the heads of the KMS students asked to participate in fundraisers. These questions can vary from, "Why are we doing this anyway?" to, "Where do we start?" To get the answers I went Mr. Keffer to get the inside

scoop.

Who can participate in these fundraisers? Mr. Keffer told me that the KMS students would be a definite as well as their families, he also mentioned that the staff could not be excluded from the fun.

"Why does KMS need to have fundraisers?" you ask. The answer is that the schools budget doesn't have enough money to cover all the things that need to be paid for, so we have two options, we either make cuts and take things out, or

Continued on page 2.

Life At Kennedy	1
Fun, Fund, Fundraisers	1-2
Hungry For Answers	2
Amazing Art Teacher	3
Fair Play	3
Bump it, Set it, Spike it! Score	4
The Best Coach Ever	4
A Coach to Remember	5

Fundraisers: Necessary but Fun

Continued from page 1

“Why does KMS need to have fundraisers?” you ask. The answer is that the schools budget doesn’t have enough money to cover all the things that need to be paid for, so we have two options, we either make cuts and take things out, or we fundraise. Now before you say, “Why don’t we cut something rather than take up our after school time?” you might reconsider fundraising because your favorite class or activity could be the one cut.

When asked what the money from fundraisers is going toward Mr. Keffer, principal, answered, “We pay for class and school trips, sports equipment, the school sign, 7th grade lockers, the new floors in the gym and 6th grade wing, those new trophy cases in the hall, student

treats, such as the special birthday basket in the office, and class and school parties, such as the winter bazaar. Also there’s the new technology throughout the building, like new projectors and computer software.

When are some of these fundraisers expected? To this Mr. Keffer responded, “We normally have three fundraisers each year, the Magazine Sale, which is usually in September, the Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie Dough Sale is most of the time in April, and the Home & School fundraiser which can happen any time from late November to early March, but that fundraiser is yet to be given a specified date and time.

“Where do we sell?” Mr. Keffer suggests that participants first try selling to family, then neighbors and

businesses.

Hold on, just one more question, “How well are we doing with fundraisers?” His answer to this, “We are doing very well, we have great participation from families and students, we appreciate all the participation and hard work because in the long and short of it they really don’t necessarily have to help the school.

It looks like KMS has a lot to look forward to in the next year. Good luck to all salesmen and women and put your “money making” face on, and let’s make some money for our school. Get out there and start selling!



Mr. Keffer gets students revved up about the magazine fundraiser at the magazine sales pep rally.

Hungry for Answers

By Nikki Feyerherm

Answer this fast—simplify $9x+12y+8x+1y-4x+8$. Miss that? The math ones are pretty

hard. Try this: Who blocked the 2 field goals in the Hays High game last Friday? Not a sports guy? How about this one? Here it is: Who wrote A

Christmas Carol? Did you say Charles Dickens? Cool! You definitely have Language Arts skill. We could so use you for Quiz Bowl! In case you have never heard of this term before in your life, never fear—I talked to Mrs. Chambers, one of the Quiz Bowl coaches.

She explained that Quiz Bowl is scholastic competition “similar to Jeopardy.” One major difference—there is no money involved. (Bummer!) Also, she

informed me that anyone can join quiz bowl, but you have to want to play it, do well on the tryout test, and give up practice time, which would be Mondays and Thursdays if you are a 7th grader, Mondays if you are on the 8th grade team, and Thursdays if you play for the 6th grade team. Practices are in the same format they play at the meets.

Speaking of meets, where are they? The 7th and 8th grade teams really make their rounds. Colby, Russell, Felten, Wakeeny, and League, (which can be anywhere, but generally somewhere at least an hour away,) are all paid a visit by our team. Plus, in January, the Irish always host a home meet as well. That adds up to a lot of questions!

Tryouts were held the third Monday of the school year, and congratulations to the six 6th grade members, seven 7th grade members,

and six 8th grade members. However, you can always try again next year if you missed it this year.

All coaches have their reasons for doing what they do. Mrs. Chambers said she became a quiz bowl coach because she liked seeing the scholarship and competition. Her favorite part is

seeing the members improve. Her least favorite part? “Driving to out of town meets,” she admits.

The members first meet is sometime in November. KMS wishes them luck with their endeavors. Let’s go, quiz bowl!

“I enjoy watching the students improve throughout the year.”

-Mrs. Chambers, Quiz Bowl coach



The members of the 2009-2010 quiz bowl team wait to be introduced in the Kennedy gym during the pep rally.

Amazing Art Teacher

By Abbey Rupke

And first prize goes to the amazing art teacher - Mrs.

Younger. Mrs. Younger creates amazing art work with her students. She is creative and she likes to publish her students' art work.

"I do a variety of

projects in all my classes. Some examples are pencil drawing, painting, and clay

I enjoy sharing my passion and love for art with my students, as well."

The type of art they do depends on the contest they are putting art work into.

"I chose to enter some of my students' art into particular competitions. I feel that we have very talented artists at our school and entering their art into contests allows their work to be seen and recognized." They can be recognized by The Artist of the Month.

"The next contest is the Scholastic Art Awards. Students in my advanced classes will have the opportunity to enter a piece

of their work into the contest." Mrs. Younger displays her students' art work in the hallway by the art room, cafeteria,

and by the office. Now we are off to another great year with some very amazing, creative, and awesome art work!

Check out some of the amazing art work on display on the KMS website. Go to: <http://www.kennedyirish.com/projects/art/album/index.html>.



A piece of art created by Kennedy student, Rachel Orth hangs in the hallway closest to the art room.

Fair Play: Together We March

By: Aislinn Walters

"Band...Forward...March!" It's parade time for the KMS band and dance team. The first parade of the year is the State Fair. Only 7th and 8th grade band members are going on the trip, because they are the most experienced.

I asked several students some questions about the day

off school. "I'm most excited about the food at the fair." Says Grant Romme, an 8th grade band student, "I've made this trip two times." Leaving at 6:00 in the morning and arriving back home twelve hours later is what most of the students like the least. I, myself, being a three timer for this trip, say "I was on the dance team in my 6th grade

year and a saxophonist this year and last. We have to be on board the bus at 6:00 A.M or it leaves without us." The three hour long bus trip takes the students to Hutchinson, Kansas, where they start marching in the parade at around 10:30. I asked a trombonist in the eighth grade band, Roy Schmielder, a few questions. "We had about four

hours at the fair, and my favorite ride was definitely the Ring of Fire. I think the main reason we went was to march in the parade." In my eyes, I don't think it's a parade at all. "We're solo on the street. I don't think parade is really the right way to describe it, since it's like 3 bands, 5 blocks distance from each other." Nicole Feyerherm is a member of the 8th grade band. This is her first year playing the clarinet. "I hope to be playing with the band. If I'm not, I'll probably be flagging. I just hope I can do that without giv-

ing anyone a concussion!"

After the parade, the bus drives the KMS students to a field next to the fair ground, where they change out of their marching clothes and into apparel fit for the fair. Mr. Bishop, the band teacher gave a warning to the boys last year. "Boys, I don't want you peaking into the girls' bus while they're changing." It was a very good 'joke'. "We get about 3 to 4 hours at the fair to go on rides, visit exhibits and eat lunch. It's a wristband day, and I'll probably get that. I'll spend \$23.00 on the wristband and about \$8.00 for lunch," says Feyerherm. Students pick groups to be in at the fair. The groups must stay together at all times. Dance team requires four people, while band students must have groups of two.

Everyone taking part in the trip was very excited. They couldn't wait until Wednesday, Sept. 16, to come around. Now, all members of band and dance tell their personal stories of this amazing trip.



Kennedy-Felten band marches down Main Street in the State Fair Parade at Hutchinson, Kansas.

Bump it, Set it, Spike it! SCORE!!!

By: Nicole Feyerherm

“Ya gotta bump to set, ya gotta set to spike, ya gotta bump, set, bump, set- spike!” To the cheerleaders, it’s known as “Bump it, Set it, Spike it.” To some, it’s just another annoying cheer. But to others, it may be as close as they can get to playing volleyball. What is it really like to be a Kennedy Middle School Volleyball player? I got the scoop from 8th grader Karla Daves and Abbey Rupke. _

These players, while similar, have their differences. Rupke’s favorite coach is Mrs. Wickham because she thinks she is the nicer one, while Daves is Mr. Hill. Karla said, “Because he’s (Mr. Hill) better at explaining things like our positions.” Why did the girls decide to invest in such a time-consuming activity? “Because my mom and her sisters did it,” Rupke says. Was she glad to follow in her mom and aunts’ footsteps? “Yeah,” was the answer. Daves answer showed she had a little bit of courage by saying

she wanted to try a new sport. How volleyball would affect them later in life was another opinion difference. Rupke was unsure, but Daves told me it would definitely have an impact on her life by helping her get in shape. I also asked Mrs. Wickham about this. “I could go on and on about that,” she told me, but gave me a few main points. It helps physically with the coordination and socially, because students learn how to get along and play with other team members. Kids also learn how to follow directions and to learn to work under someone- in this case, a coach. “It’s like having a job,” she said.

The girls’ positions are also as unique as they are. Abbey told me she did not know her exact positions, so she gets a lot of practice in the game. “I do a lot of things on C team,” she told me. Her positions included setter, passer, digger, and server. She also said that volleyball was really fun, “but difficult, because you have to stay commit-

ted to it.” Karla said it was “awesome” to be a volleyball player. She is a 1 hitter, a passer, and an 8 hitter. (In case you are completely clueless as to what the numbers mean, never fear-Karla said they describe where you are on the court, how good you are at that position, and things like that. The numbers can apply to any position-setter, passer, digger, server, etc.)

If you are a spectator like me, you can still catch some volleyball action. The girls have two home games on their schedule- a quad of DCSH, Larned, and Hoisington that was on Sept. 8th, and DCSH on Sept. 24th. Location of the 24th game is yet to be released.

Overall, the three of us, as well as Kennedy Middle School, are looking forward to a great volleyball season.



To check out the volleyball stats, check out the [sports section](#) on [KennedyIrish.com](#)

The Best Coach Ever!

By: Samantha Younise

Kennedy Irish is having a great season in volleyball. The volleyball coach is Mrs. Wickham, and I wanted to know more about her and her team.

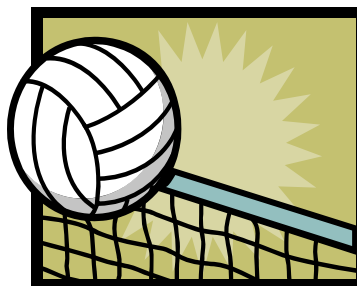
Mrs. Wickham started coaching at Pratt- Liberty Middle School, in 1987, at the age of 22.

She inspired herself to start coaching sports! “I love sports and since I was no longer in school to still play; I wanted to be involved with sports so I applied for the coaching jobs.”

Since her days as a volleyball player, Mrs. Wickham has become involved in many sports. She has coached soccer, t-ball, baseball, softball, basketball, and now volleyball.

In the world of volleyball, Mrs. Wickham plays no favorites, even though she played setter as a young athlete. She feels every position is important and it takes all six players to win.

As you can see there are many interesting things we can find out about coaches. Mrs. Wickham really enjoys coaching sports, she really knows what she’s doing!



MRS. WICKHAM HUDDLES THE C TEAM TO GIVE THEM ADVICE AT THE SERVE OUT AT HAYS HIGH.

A Coach to Remember

By: Grant Romme

Kennedy is having a great year, but the players don't do it alone. The coaches play a very important role in the Kennedy Irish football team. Mr. Jordan is the head football coach for the 2009 season. Let's see what he thinks about the season.

"I have coached against many teams in my life, and one of the toughest teams I have faced is the Scott Blue Jays," says Mr. Jordan. He thinks that the Blue Jays are going to be a tough team to beat. Scott City has a tradition of being very good, and the kids know how to play football. Mr. Jordan says to prepare for any team we face is to look at what they run offense and defense, then we find the weaknesses of that kind of offense and defense. Once we have found the weaknesses we have to attack those points. Now, that is a tough job.

"I love the first game of the season, you get to find out how the kids react to playing somebody else than their own teammates," says Mr. Jordan. He says that he also gets to see what the kids have learned in the preseason.

Mr. Jordan has coached for ten years, this is one of the reasons he coached our football team this year. Another reason he has decided to coach was to be around the game that he had a passion for. Mr. Jordan had so much fun playing football when he was our age and older, and when he was done playing football he found a place coaching football.

Have you ever had to deal with things that are just a drag? Mr. Jordan has to deal with this all the time, even in football. He doesn't like to deal with the off-field things. If kids aren't getting their work done, then he has to deal with them. If kids aren't acting like they should, he has to give them a punishment for letting the team down. The team has improved a lot from the help from

Mr. Jordan and his assistants. "I think they have improved the most on their fundamentals this year," says Mr. Jordan. Mr. Jordan has worked all year long on improving his team on and off the field. If you see him around remember to show your appreciation for his hard work!



C.J Bollig runs the ball as his teammate block for him against Scott City at Felten.

KMS FOOTBALL STATS

9-3	9-10	9-17	9-24	10-1	10-8
Dodge City - Sacred Heart	Russell	Hoisington	Scott City	Larned	Phillipsburg
32-6 (W)	0-8 (L)	8-38 (L)	0-20 (L)	6-29 (L)	44-0 (L)